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FBIS-EEU-90-179 — CONTENTS — 14 September 1990

NOTICE TO READERS: * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTRABLOC AFFAIRS

Hungarian Spokesman on Failure of Pact Talks *[Budapest Radio]* 1
Warsaw Pact To Meet in Budapest in Nov *[Budapest Radio]* 1
East Europeans Worried About Soviet Fuel Supply *[Vienna DER STANDARD 13 Sep]* 1

BULGARIA

Opposition Refuses Ruling Coalition With BSP *[BTA]* 2
BSP Parliamentarians Review Assembly Proceedings *[BTA]* 2
Assembly Limits Media Coverage; To Review Crisis *[BTA]* 2
Zhelev Meets With Leading Security Force Leaders *[NARODNA ARMIYA 12 Sep]* 3
Zhivkov Describes Investigation as 'Dirty' *[BTA]* 5
Bureau Provides Employment Statistics for Sofia *[DUMA 13 Sep]* 5
Silistra Polluted by Romanian Plant in Calaraci *[BTA]* 6
Letter Protests Prices of Soviet Publications *[BTA]* 6

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Further Reportage on President Mitterand's Visit 7
    Havel, Mitterrand on Bilateral Cooperation *[CTK]* 7
    Havel Addresses Lunch Reception *[CTK]* 7
    Mitterrand Speaks of Unified Europe *[CTK]* 7
    Investment Protection Accord Signed *[CTK]* 8
    Aid Discussed With Calfa *[CTK]* 8
    French Envoy Hosts Reception *[Prague Radio]* 8
Plans To Consult UN on Embargo, Economic Woes *[Prague Radio]* 8
Government Welcomes German Unification Treaty *[ADN]* 9
Vales Reviews Trade Relations With USSR *[HOSODARSKE NOVINY 5 Sep]* 9
Lithuania's Prunskiene Arrives in Prague *[CTK]* 10
Contact With European Communities Stressed *[CTK]* 10
Deputy Minister Explains IMF Entry Procedure *[RUDE PRAVO]* 10
Calfa Addresses World Economic Forum in Prague *[HOSPODARSKE NOVINY 7 Sep]* 10
Preface Given to Economic Reform 'Scenario' *[HOSPODARSKE NOVINY 4 Sep]* 11
Assembly Voices Objections to Economic Reforms *[CTK]* 12
Foreign Debt Reduced to 7 Billion Dollars *[SVOBODNE SLOVO 6 Sep]* 13
Further Reportage on Piestany Meetings 13
    Meciar Comments *[Prague Radio]* 13
    Pithart Reports on Progress *[Prague Radio]* 13
    Calfa on 'Fundamental Search' *[Prague Radio]* 14
    Officials Answer Press Questions *[Prague Radio]* 14
Czechoslovak Socialist Party Appeals for Unity *[SVOBODNE SLOVO 7 Sep]* 18
Wichterle Appointed President of CSFR Academy *[HOSPODARSKE NOVINY 7 Sep]* 18
Meciar Stresses Slovakia's International Role *[NARODNA OBRODA 10 Sep]* 18

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Minister Steinberg 'Unofficial' Stasi Employee *[ADN]* 21
    Charges Called 'Unfounded' *[Hamburg DPA]* 21
Brinksmeier Views Course of Stasi Investigation *[Hamburg BILD 13 Sep]* 21
People's Chamber Passes Broadcast Control Law *[ADN]* 21

- GDR Wants To Prevent Entry Ban for Soviet Jews *[Munich SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG 13 Sep]* 22
- Citizenship Granted for 52 Hong Kong Chinese *[Hamburg DPA]* 22
- British Industry Interested in GDR Firms *[Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE 12 Sep]* . 22

HUNGARY

- Defense Ministry Comments on Arms Sales to Iraq *[MAGYAR NEMZET 12 Sep]* 23
- President Goncz Departs for Unofficial U.S. Trip *[MTI]* 23
  - Arrives, Comments in New York *[MTI]* 23
- Council of Europe Membership Said 'Likely' *[MTI]* 24
- European Parliament Approves Resolution on Ties *[MTI]* 24
- Antall Congratulates German Leaders on Treaty *[MTI]* 24
- Jeszenszky on Response to Remarks in Parliament *[NEPSZABADSAG 12 Sep]* 24
- Minister on Unemployment, Export of Labor *[MAGYAR HIRLAP 12 Sep]* 25
- Statistics on Price Increases, Economy Published *[NEPSZAVA 11 Sep]* 26
- Grain Exports Above Established Quota Frozen *[MTI]* 26

POLAND

- Future of 'Democratic' Polish Television Viewed *[POLITYKA 11 Aug]* 27
- Ministry Considers Buying Western Fighters *[SZTANDAR MLODYCH 10 Sep]* 29
- Silesian Committees Not To Use 'Solidarity' Logo *[PAP]* 30
- Solidarity National Commission Presidium Meets *[PAP]* 30
- 'Solidarity' Commission Attacks Parties' Law *[TYGODNIK SOLIDARNOSC 7 Sep]* 30
- Mazowiecki Proposes Council of Ministers Changes *[Warsaw Radio]* 31
- KLD Leader Interviewed on Upcoming Elections *[ZYCIE WARSZAWY 8-9 Sep]* 32
- Rumors of New 'Roundtable' Meetings Reported *[GAZETA WYBORCZA 10 Sep]* 33
- Mazowiecki Consults Leaders on Government Changes *[Warsaw Radio]* 33
- Sejm Reviews Schedule, Draft Legislation *[PAP]* 33
- Parliamentary Club Prepares for Next Sejm Session *[PAP]* 34
- Draft of New Presidential Electoral Law Viewed *[GAZETA WYBORCZA 8-9 Sep]* 34
- PAP To Publish New Weekly Bulletin on USSR *[PAP]* 35
- Jaruzelski Receives Japanese Youth Delegation *[PAP]* 35
- NATO's Woerner Meets Leaders, Addresses Sejm *[PAP]* 35
- U.S. Deputy Energy Secretary on Working Visit *[PAP]* 36
- Satisfaction Noted With Two-Plus-Four Treaty *[Hamburg DPA]* 36

ROMANIA

- Spokesman on Alleged Violation of Embargo on Iraq 37
  - Oil Contract Denied *[Bucharest Radio]* 37
  - Plans To Violate Embargo Denied *[ROMPRES]* 37
  - Displeasure With Media Expressed *[ROMPRES]* 37
- U.S. Denial of Romanian Embargo Violation Noted *[Bucharest Radio]* 38
- U.S. Foundation, Church Officials Visit *[ROMPRES]* 38
  - New York Chief Rabbi Meets Iliescu *[ROMPRES]* 39
  - Chief Rabbi Received by Roman, Nastase *[ROMPRES]* 39
- Minister Meets Netherlands Agricultural Official *[ROMPRES]* 39
- Foreign Minister Nastase Receives Balkan Delegates *[ROMPRES]* 39
- Romanian Group in Interparliamentary Union Meets *[ROMPRES]* 39
- * Romanian Appeal Condemns Vienna Award *[Bucharest AZI 26 Aug]* 40
- * Persistant Hungarian Nationalism Deplored *[TINERETUL LIBER 26 Aug]* 41
- Senate, Deputies Assembly Convene 12-13 Sep 42
  - Senate Discusses Law, Trade Bills *[ROMPRES]* 42
  - Commercial Bill, Holidays Debated *[ROMPRES]* 42
  - Deputies Endorse Bill on Companies *[ROMPRES]* 43
  - Deputies Discuss Commerce, June Events *[ROMPRES]* 43
  - Deputies Debate Economic Bills *[ROMPRES]* 43
  - Roman Chairs 13 Sep Meeting *[ROMPRES]* 43
- Commission Continues Investigation of June Unrest *[ROMPRES]* 43

Witnesses Deny Vlad Ordered Firing on Crowd *[ROMPRES]* 44
  More Testimonies Heard *[ROMPRES]* 44
* Roman's TV Interview Hailed as Pragmatic *[AZI 24 Aug]* 44
Silviu Brucan Interviewed on Current Situation *[Bucharest TV]* 47
Iliescu Receives Parliamentary Deputy Ion Ratiu *[ROMPRES]* 48
Iliescu Meets 'Bratianu' Liberal Union Delegation *[ROMPRES]* 48
Royal Princesses Meet Romanian Academy Chairman *[ROMPRES]* 48
* Public Prosecutor Upholds Law, Shuns Politics *[TINERETUL LIBER 24 Aug]* 48
Roman, Ursu Attend Fireman's Day Ceremony *[ROMPRES]* 50
Attacks on Intelligence Service Multiply *[ROMPRES]* 50
Journalists' Assocation Elects Steering Board *[ROMPRES]* 50
Daily Protests Actions Against Local TV Station *[DREPTATEA 7 Sep]* 50
25 Machine-Building Enterprises Go on Strike *[ROMPRES]* 51
  Over 100,000 Workers Involved *[AFP]* 51
Economic Effects of Spinta Road Block Noted *[ROMPRES]* 52
August Balance Sheet of Industry, Import-Exports *[ROMPRES]* 52

YUGOSLAVIA

Two Albanians Killed During Podujevo Police Raid *[Zagreb Radio]* 53
  Two Soldiers Injured *[Belgrade Radio]* 53
2 Albanians Killed, Policeman Hurt in New Clash *[TANJUG]* 53
Further on Draft Kosovo Constitution Provisions *[TANJUG]* 53
  Serbia: Document of 'No Legal Value' *[TANJUG]* 54
LDK's National Registration, Future Goals Viewed *[VLAKA E VELLAZERIMIT 9 Sep]* 54
Consequences of Serbian Kosovo Policy Reviewed *[Mecilosek in NEODVISNI DNEVNIK 10 Sep]* 55
Serbian Executive Council Ratifies Election Law *[TANJUG]* 56
  Voting Rules Outlined *[TANJUG]* 56
New Movement Asks for Belgrade TV Name Change *[TANJUG]* 56
New Equipment Slated for Knin Radio Station *[TANJUG]* 56
Foca Situation 'Gradually Normalizing' *[TANJUG]* 56
Call To Prevent 'Nationalistic Frenzy' in Foca *[TANJUG]* 57
Bosnian Parties Meet With Nationals in FRG *[VJESNIK 10 Sep]* 57
Bosnia Communists Oppose Socialist Party Concept *[TANJUG]* 58
Slovene Spokesman on 'Confederal Contract' *[TANJUG]* 58
Slovene, Croat Social Democratic Parties Confer *[TANJUG]* 58
Former HDZ Member Blames Expulsion on Tudjman *[BORBA 10 Sep]* 58
Macedonian Government Counters Tupurkovski Attack *[BORBA 7 Sep]* 59
Macedonia Seeks Repayment From Federal Government *[TANJUG]* 59
Trade Unions, Government Disagree on Law on Pay *[POLITIKA 7 Sep]* 59
Numerous Parties Register at Federal Level *[TANJUG]* 60
Daily Newspapers Post Six-Month Circulation Drop *[TANJUG]* 60
Government Spokesman on UN Resolution Support *[TANJUG]* 60

Hungarian Spokesman on Failure of Pact Talks

LD1209161590 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] The meeting of the Warsaw Pact special committee on disarmament ended in failure in Bratislava. Gyorgy Mika asked a Hungarian Foreign Ministry spokesman why this was so.

[Begin recording] [Mika] At this meeting they were discussing conventional weapons, more precisely the future of these weapons in the former socialist countries. Why did the Czechoslovaks make such a negative statement about this? Janos Hermann, foreign affairs spokesman, is on the line.

[Hermann] The reason for this, without doubt, is that the meeting ended in failure. This also corresponds to the evaluation of the Hungarian side. The task of the talks should have been for us to reach an agreement between the individual countries on the allotment, on the basis of maximum levels established for the whole of the Warsaw Pact, in certain conventional weapons and battle equipment categories, keeping in mind the principle of arms sufficiency. I would like to add that the lack of agreement between the Pact's six would definitely be a problematic factor and would impede the successful conclusion as soon as possible of the Vienna talks. For this reason, the decision was made to continue the talks on 22 September in Prague.

[Mikal] Is is known what the Hungarian stance in the next round will be? For example, how would Hungarian conventional armaments be affected by the establishment of a new weapons threshold?

[Hermann] We feel that the stance of the Hungarian delegation corresponds to the level of sufficiency needed for Hungarian security requirements. At the same time, I would also like to add that according to the Hungarian stance, no country is justified in demanding more than one-third of the level set for the whole of Europe. [end recording]

Warsaw Pact To Meet in Budapest in Nov

LD1209140990 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0430 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] In November the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee will hold a meeting in the Hungarian capital. This was announced by government spokesman Balazs Laszlo.

He also said that the Hungarian prime minister would visit Strasbourg, England, the Netherlands, and the United States in October; in November he is to visit France and Israel. This weekend Jozsef Antall is to make an official visit to Italy, where he will also meet Pope John Paul II.

East Europeans Worried About Soviet Fuel Supply

AU1309125390 Vienna DER STANDARD in German 13 Sep 90 p 19

[APA report: "East European Countries Worried About Soviet Oil"]

[Text] Budapest/Warsaw—The East European countries are increasingly concerned that Soviet oil supplies might be totally stopped in 1991. After a Polish Government delegation returned from Moscow, a relevant report in the Polish daily GAZETA WYBORCZA on the visit has also given rise to concern in Hungary.

Hungarian experts have said that the reports from Poland are "almost unbelievable." According to Istvan Zsengeller, director general of the Hungarian Oil and Gas Company (OKGT), the reports must "be based on a misunderstanding."

Because bilateral trade with the Soviets will be handled in convertible currency as of 1991, it does not make any difference for the Soviet Union whether its customers are CEMA partners or other countries, says Zsengeller. In addition, oil can be supplied to Central Europe without any problem through existing pipelines, whereas Western Europe must be supplied with oil by ship, the manager says.

However, it is a fact that the Soviets are confronting their East European neighbors with reduced oil and gas supplies already, and they have announced drastic cuts as of 1991.

Whereas Hungary wants to import 6.48 million tonnes of oil from the USSR, Moscow is allegedly only ready to export 4 million tonnes. This year, Soviet oil supplies will probably not exceed 5.1 million tonnes.

People in Warsaw hope that Poland will at least get between 4 and 6 million tonnes next year. This year, the Soviets are allegedly planning to supply 30 percent less than the expected 12.8 million tonnes, while gas supplies to their western neighbor will be cut back from 8 billion to 5 billion cubic meters.

Opposition Refuses Ruling Coalition With BSP

AU1309183590 Sofia BTA in English 1747 GMT 13 Sep 90

["Opposition Refuses Government Coalition"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, 13 Sep (BTA)—The Union of Democratic Forces (SDS) said today it will not participate in a coalition government under any form proposed by the BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party]. A common declaration of the SDS Coordinating Council and its parliamentary union which was circulated today reads that the opposition does not see, for the time being, prerequisites and conditions to participate in a coalition with Socialists.

The opposition pointed as motives for that the differences in principle in the SDS and BSP programs, the adherence of all political forces to their pre-election platforms, the lack of a program for the transition to democracy and a market economy, approved by parliament by which a future government will be obliged. The declaration stresses the need of a real parliamentary opposition as a guarantee for democracy.

The opposition expresses its consent that the BSP, the party of the majority in parliament, is hampering the formation of the government. The SDS declares that being a united opposition it will continue the fulfillment of its program, by which it is participating in the process of democracy, by parliamentary means.

The declaration is signed by the SDS leaders and parties and by all leaders and parties, movements and organizations in the union. Only the signature of the SDS Coordinating Council leader Petur Beron is missing. "He did not sign it because he is abroad," specified Mikhail Nedelchev, spokesmen of the Coordinating Council, before a BTA reporter.

BSP Parliamentarians Review Assembly Proceedings

AU1309201490 Sofia BTA in English 1732 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Sofia, 13 Sep (BTA)—Representatives of the BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party] parliamentary group expressed today moderate satisfaction with the Grand National Assembly work. At a press conference they did not condemn the frequent stormy "propaganda and political discussions" but also declared themselves for the restriction of such type of activities.

According to the BSP M.P.s every third hour of the discussion in parliament is lost for procedural issues which is due to the lack of regulations for work.

Next week can be expected a result from Andrey Lukanov's consultations on the forming of the new government. As far as the versions on the founding of this government go, it seems that the coalition version is the most distant one but it is still not excluded.

Representatives of the Movement for Radical Changes in the BSP also met with the journalists who told them that the conservatives in the Socialist Party are "using them as a screen in their policy."

The leaders of "Demos" [Movement for Democratic Socialism] and of the Alternative Socialist Association Aleksandur Tomov and Valentin Vatsev are against a change which can turn to be some kind of a "patchwork" of bolshevism and social-democracy.

The radicals are eagerly expecting the BSP forthcoming congress but they are at the same time worried over certain facts in relation with the inter-party life, which evidence about "fossilization" of structures.

"If the forces which we still are resilient to call 'conservative' are prevailing at the congress neither the BSP nor Bulgaria should expect anything good," the radicals say.

Assembly Limits Media Coverage; To Review Crisis

AU1309184890 Sofia BTA in English 1742 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Sofia, 13 Sep (BTA)—After three-hour debates today parliament decided that its sessions will be broadcast directly by the radio only. The TV will make detailed reports and will emit directly only the more important sessions.

The resolution on how the radio and TV should cover the M.P.s work was adopted after heated debates between the Socialists and the opposition. According to the Socialists (this proposal was made two days ago by their leader Aleksandur Lilov) direct emissions on radio and TV should be stopped. The motives were that they rather created "a political theater" instead of adopting new laws. The opposition insisted for openness. "In Britain Parliament sessions are not directly broadcast, but then, there is no BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party] there," was what a M.P. from the opposition said which caused the Socialists discontent. They did not accept his arguments that by direct emissions the Bulgarians can exert control on parliament.

Finally things were brought to a compromise resolution.

The parliament today adopted an address to the Bulgarian school children, students, teachers and lecturers in relations with the first school day, September 17.

The M.P.s elected an inquiry commission which will deal with the reasons for the political and economic crisis. Its chairman is Petur Kornazhev, M.P. from the opposition, who is a lawyer by profession.

According to the preliminary agenda the parliament had to consider the bill for the amendment and addenda of the Law on the Political Parties, which provides depolitization of certain state institutions. This was not done as the bill is still being considered by several other commissions.

Tomorrow President Zhelyu Zhelev will read an address to parliament.

Zhelev Meets With Leading Security Force Leaders

AU1409093290 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 12 Sep 90 pp 1, 3

[Colonel Boris Khristov report: "National Security—The Chief Problem"]

[Text] The problems of national security, of law and order in our country are exceptionally topical. They were discussed at yesterday's meeting, especially devoted to this subject, between Zhelyu Zhelev, president of the Republic, the leading staff of the Armed Forces, the security, and law and order forces. At precisely 1000, Colonel General Radnyu Minchev, first deputy minister of national defense and chief of the Bulgarian People's Army General Staff, reported to the commander in chief of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Armed Forces.

The meeting was opened and chaired by Army General Dobri Dzhurov, minister of national defense. After pointing out that this meeting was organized at the proposal of the president of the Republic, he gave the floor to Doctor Zhelyu Zhelev.

The president's address was heard with great attention. He spoke as follows: Esteemed gentlemen, the Armed Forces, the security and law and order organs have always played, are playing, and will play a special role in all states of this world. For this reason my present meeting with you is the first meeting I have held with such a large audience, following my election to the post of president. I proposed this meeting not, primarily, in my function as commander in chief of the Armed Forces and chairman of the National Security Council, but because I am aware of the great responsibility which we, and this also includes the government, together with you, bear for the country's destiny.

Bulgaria, like other Eastern European countries, is living through a crucial period of its political development. It is a transitional period from a totalitarian regime to parliamentary democracy. Along the path of this transition and within less than a year, great changes have occurred in our country. A multiparty political system has been established in our country today, an organized opposition, an independent press, and a relatively independent radio and television network also exist. A democratically elected parliament has been elected and is currently engaged in passing a dozen laws, according to which, radical political and economic reforms should take place in our country. The president was democratically elected. The appointment of a government based on national consensus, or on national responsibility is expected, within less than one year, to implement democratic reforms in our country. Regardless of how slow the changes may seem to us, and regardless of how dissatisfied we may be with the slow pace of these changes, we should look back into the past, and convince ourselves how significant these changes really are. Today, Bulgaria is no longer a totalitarian state in the real sense of this word, but it has not yet developed as a parliamentary democracy, either. We are involved in a transitional period and in a peculiar situation which is usually described as post-totalitarian. The transition from totalitarianism to a parliamentary system and to multiparty democracy is painful. It deeply affects all spheres of social life—the political, economic, and moral spheres—to the same extent. This process further exacerbates the existing tension. Sometimes it even provokes a nihilistic attitude to law and order. The danger of permanent conflict increases. We are threatened by emerging disorder and chaos. A deepening social disintegration gives us cause for concern. The basic structure of state power is considerably disrupted. We are under the impression that some state structures are affected by a peculiar passivity. Civil discipline is deteriorating, criminality is increasing, corruption and the black market prevail. The disruption of the production process considerably affects our market situation. The work of the Grand National Assembly has been in progress for the last two months. A considerable amount of work has been accomplished. However, a number of laws related to economic reforms, which do not tolerate any delay are still under preparation, or at best are being discussed in the legislative commission. Such a difficult and deteriorating socioeconomic and moral atmosphere represents fertile ground for fanning extremist political moods, which manifest themselves in an increasingly drastic and dangerous fashion. This is confirmed by the attempts of street demonstrators to exert pressure on the Grand National Assembly and by the arson attack against the Bulgarian Socialist Party's headquarters.

Our country's international situation is not too satisfactory, either, the speaker pointed out. The intensified democratization process of society in our country evokes a rather positive response among the world public. The political, economic and financial institutions of the EEC and the EC, and the group of 24 have expressed their readiness of cooperating with our country. The relations between the United States and Bulgaria have also improved. However, we have not yet overcome the heavy burden accumulated over the years of totalitarian domination in the foreign policy sphere. It will also be difficult to overcome the implications of the country's foreign debt.

Doctor Zhelyu Zhelev further stressed that the domestic and external problems we are facing are not only numerous, but also quite complicated and that none of these problems should be neglected. In the first place, we should guarantee our national security on a domestic and international scale. The world is changing, Europe is changing, Bulgaria is also changing, of course. Numerous national and international structures are disintegrating, and this also applies to the recent collective defense systems. The national security of the peoples on our continent can no longer be built on the basis of military blocs, and this applies to Bulgaria in particular. The establishment of a European foreign political and strategic system, likely to provide sufficiently reliable guarantees for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all European countries, is now called for. This requires and presupposes that the interests of the future member-states should be regarded on an equal basis. The days are over when the only criteria for a country's security were determined by military factors—such as the number, the state of organization, the armaments, and the training of the armed forces. Political, scientific-technical, economic, social, demographic, and even ecological factors are assuming a greater importance today. National security under present-day conditions is a complicated system taking into consideration all aforementioned factors. Naturally, the problems of our country's defense should be analyzed, examined, and resolved by taking into consideration our place and role in the Balkans, the real sources of military threat, the extent, and dimensions of the threat, and so forth. We note with great satisfaction the development of our relations with Greece, which are based on increasing mutual trust. We are firmly resolved to eliminate all obstacles to the development of good-neighborly and friendly relations with Turkey. Judging from the results of Mr. Lukanov's meeting with the president of that country, we can assume that the Turkish Government shares this wish. We intend to develop our contacts with the other neighboring countries in the same spirit. We are about to establish a new system of international relations, guaranteeing the free passage of citizens across the borders of different countries, an intensive exchange of material and intellectual values, aimed at creating a model of international life which guarantees that each country's sovereignty should depend on the security of the others. We cannot fail to take into consideration the fact that, regardless of the alleviated state of confrontation in Europe, the Balkans still remain a zone of high tension and of traditional, regional-polititical instability. Hence, Bulgaria is obliged to maintain a minimum of armed forces, security organs, and institutions guaranteeing law and order, which should be capable of safeguarding our country's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and internal stability. It is inadmissible to go below this limit, because it would be in contradiction with our national interests.

As far as I am informed, quality parameters are now prevailing in the organization and training of our Armed Forces and in the current reforms of the security and law and order organs. I consider this a correct policy which, I am convinced, shall be consistently implemented. In addition to the improvement of the organizational structure and of the quality of armaments, the fighting capacity of a military unit, along with the system of internal security, depends on the professional skills and morale of the army personnel, which are determined by numerous other factors. I would like to point out in this context that today we are confronted with a specific situation. Liberated as they now are from the totalitarian forms of leadership which had transformed the Armed Forces into an instrument of the dictatorial and one-party regime, our Bulgarian Army and security organs are increasingly asserting themselves as a nationwide institution, as the exponent of the interests of all society, guaranteeing the defense and internal security of our country. Under such circumstances, loyalty toward the motherland and to our national interests, and loyalty to the Constitution, as a basis for building lofty moral and combat qualities, are assuming priority importance. Priority importance should be attached to professional obligations, above all. I take the liberty of pointing out the need to create a new intellectual and moral atmosphere among the military collectives, within the security and law and order organs. Under this influence, human dignity should be respected, naturally, by strictly observing the principle of one-man command and the requirements of the military code of regulations.

The president of the Republic said further: I would like to share my concern with you about the increasing appeals and complaints submitted by members of the Bulgarian Armed Forces and Ministry of Internal Affairs personnel regarding their social situation. The difficult living conditions of the People's Militia are already known to the public. It is evident that despite the efforts devoted by the leading bodies of both ministries in this respect, too many problems have accumulated. The Grand National Assembly and the state government organs should be involved in the solution of these problems and I do not exclude myself from this obligation, of course. The discussion and adoption of the laws prepared by the two ministries' leadership is an important prerequisite for improving the comprehensive work related to the organization and training of the Armed Forces, of the security, and law and order organs, and together with the Council of Ministers chairman, I am willing to do everything within my power to speed up this work.

In this connection I must also dwell on the question of the membership of military personnel and Ministry of Internal Affairs employees in political parties. In the transition to a new type of social relations, the danger that military units and Ministry of Internal organs might become a scene of political struggle is very considerable. Political passions are likely to complicate the solution of problems related to the immunity of military personnel and Ministry of Internal Affairs employees. For this reason we propose to all parliamentary and political forces that a law should be adopted to ban the personnel of these institutions from political parties. The same regulation should also apply to the courts of justice, the prosecutors' offices, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Employees of these institutions should not be members of any political party. The stability of our society is a key element of national security. I am not only talking about civil peace. This is the most important prerequisite for the peaceful, nonviolent transition from a totalitarian regime to democracy. It requires a total mobilization of the nation's intellectual, spiritual-moral, and physical forces to rescue our country from this situation. Naturally, no one intends to encroach upon the right of citizens to express their own views, their political and religious convictions, but it is a question of establishing a healthy atmosphere, a civilized atmosphere of dialogue avoiding all forms of violence and hatred. I would like to assure you that the state leadership, the future government included, shall act in this respect with firm resolve and without any hesitation. I would like to recall in this respect that, until recently, we managed to guarantee the peaceful transition to a pluralistic parliamentary democracy, precisely by applying political dialogue, and methods, and also by practising self-restraint, sometimes even allowing compromises with the letter of the law. Unfortunately, the recent events showed that some forces in our country took advantage of this tolerance. They tried to steer the development of democratic processes in our country into a dangerous direction. This is confirmed by the recent acts of vandalism, especially regarding the arson attack against the BSP headquarters. In such cases, it is high time for the immediate application of all possible, combined political methods and procedures, and all forms and means of protection which the Constitution and the country's legislation have granted to the forces of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. We shall certainly support this line of behavior, convinced, as we are, that democracy and violence are incompatible, and that violence discredits Bulgaria in the eyes of the world, alienating our country from real democracy.

The president of the Republic closed his address by expressing his gratitude to all those present for their efforts in consolidating the defense capacity and internal security of the country as the most important prerequisites for rescuing Bulgaria from its difficult situation, and for the further consolidation of democratic development in our country.

Zhivkov Describes Investigation as 'Dirty'

AU1309192490 Sofia BTA in English 1754 GMT 13 Sep 90

["Todor Zhivkov: 'A Dirty Inquiry Is Held Against Me'"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, 13 Sep (BTA)—This evening the Bulgarians heard for the first time after November 10, 1989 the voice of Todor Zhivkov. 79-year old Zhivkov who was leader of the Bulgarian Communist Party for almost 35 years called the inquiry which is being held against him "dirty".

The TV emitted Zhivkov's statement against the background of archive cadres. He was shown walking in a villa yard.

Todor Zhivkov who spoke quite distinctly said that he will show before the TV, radio and the other mass media, before the National Assembly, after the dirty inquiry against him is stopped. "I will do that with a great pleasure. But now a dirty inquiry is being held. It is held by the Prosecutor's Office but it is in fact imposed by political forces outside of the Prosecutor's Office," Todor Zhivkov said. He said that from his present position of defendant he is not able to talk freely on all issues "in which the Bulgarian people and the world public are interested". "I will talk as soon as possible after the inquiry is over. Then it will become clear what the case of Todor Zhivkov who had been for nearly 35 years a head of the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Bulgarian state was."

Todor Zhivkov is living under home arrest in his villa near Sofia together with his granddaughter Eugenia.

Bureau Provides Employment Statistics for Sofia

AU1309201990 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 13 Sep 90 p 1

[Boris Gergov report: "Sofia Is Not Affected by Unemployment"]

[Text] Ilya Tsurev, deputy chairman of the Sofia Employment Bureau, stated as follows yesterday: "The unemployment rate is not higher than 15 years ago." The only difference, according to Tsurev, is that the unemployed in the past were described with the term "temporarily jobless individuals." Today we have over 6,000 available jobs, while 3,700 workers are looking for jobs.

Approximately 3,700 citizens are actually seeking employment through employment agencies. Approximately 1,700 university graduates are among them. As a result of closing down enterprises and abolishing jobs approximately 3,000 people have registered with the nine existing employment agencies in Sofia, but only 600 of them have found employment. No one has volunteered to attend the retraining courses established according to Decree No. 57 of the Council of Ministers. Nearly 80 individuals have refused the jobs offered to them.

Approximately 663,000 leva have been spent on unemployment compensation since the beginning of 1990.

The Sofia employment agencies are offering 6,380 jobs for the time being. The largest number of available jobs are for construction workers—namely 1,952 jobs—followed by 1,281 jobs for machine buildings, 570 jobs for motor vehicle drivers and crane operators, and 210 jobs for workers in the public catering sector. Another 197 jobs are available for workers in the energy sector, 236 jobs for textile workers, 75 jobs for railroad workers, 44 jobs for furriers and shoemakers, 61 jobs for carpenters, and 149 jobs for nursing and medical assistance personnel.

Four positions for leading administrative cadres are available. One position is available for scientific workers, seven positions for lawyers, one for a mining worker, two jobs for electronic workers, and six jobs for chemical industry workers. A total of 244 jobs for civil servants are available.

Ilya Tsurev closed his statement by saying: "610,000 jobs are occupied in Sofia, 53,000 of which are filled by pensioners."

Silistra Polluted by Romanian Plant in Calaraci

AU1309191090 Sofia BTA in English 1739 GMT 13 Sep 90

["Twenty-Hour Sulphuric Acid Nightmare"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, 13 Sep (BTA)—For twenty hours the city of Silistra on the Danube was suffocated by another gas-pollution from the Metallurgical Combine Works of the neighboring Romanian city of Calaraci on the other bank of the river. The results of the laboratory tests will be known tomorrow. Experts are expecting that besides hydrogen sulfide the tests will also show positive to benzene, phenol and other organic compounds.

Gas pollutions have lately become disturbingly frequent. Children say that "it smells of train". But behind the naive children's comparison is hiding the worry of the 60,000-populated city. The three meetings between leaders of the two cities were in vain.

Silistra is situated 90 km northeast of Ruse, the city which has been for 10 years now victim of the Romanian chemical plant which is polluting its air.

Letter Protests Prices of Soviet Publications

AU1309150790 Sofia BTA in English 1343 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Sofia, 13 Sep (BTA)—It is quite possible that soon tens of thousands of people would demonstrate in front of Soviet Embassy in Sofia with slogans : "We want to read Soviet newspapers and magazines."

This is the warning of Aleksandur Abadzhiev in an open letter to Soviet Ambassador in Sofia Viktor Sharapov. The letter is published today in "DUMA".

It was in relation with the Soviet foreign trade organizations intention to demand the payment of Soviet newspapers and magazines subscriptions in Bulgaria for 1991 to be made in U.S. dollars.

This, according to Abadzhiev means that in Bulgaria, the country in which Soviet periodicals are most widely received, a barrier will be built regarding the information about Soviet restructuring.

Mr. Abadzhiev recalls that by 1985 Soviet newspapers stood in piles at the news stands, and the BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party] members were forced to subscribe for "PRAVDA". After the beginning of restructuring everything changed, one had to have ties to be able to buy a Soviet edition and articles from "OGONEK" and "MOSCOW NEWS" were circulated in photo copies. The censorship (a special service at the Ministry of Communications) stopped certain issues or held them for weeks. Now, after the beginning of democratic changes in Bulgaria, interest in the Soviet press is not so intensive, in spite of that, however, Bulgaria gets over 162 thousand issues of "PRAVDA", 145 thousand issues of "MOSCOW NEWS", 90,000 issues of "OGONEK", 35 thousand issues of "arguments and facts", etc. Prices of Soviet periodicals have so far been low. There were many people in Bulgaria who paid more than a 100 leva last year (which is almost half of the average monthly salary) to subscribe for newspapers and magazines.

The new prices in U.S. dollars which are proposed for 1991 are 25 dollars for "PRAVDA", 34 dollars for "OGONEK", 12.50 dollars for "MOSCOW NEWS", etc.

The result will be disastrous as the Bulgarian journalist tells. He suspects that that the decision about the new prices has not been taken by tradesmen alone but also by ideologists.

There will hardly be a Bulgarian citizen who could find money to subscribe. The official rate of the dollar here is one lev to nine dollars.

At the same time Western publishing concerns like "Springer" are preparing to propose here on dumping prices their publications to be sold in leva.

There are great chances that Soviet foreign trade organizations may make a wrong step by forgetting that winning slim sums in dollars will make the USSR lose a powerful lever for political and information influence, Abadzhiev writes in his letter to the Soviet ambassador here.

Further Reportage on President Mitterand's Visit

Havel, Mitterrand on Bilateral Cooperation

LD1309164290 Prague CTK in English 1435 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Prague Sept 13 (CTK)—Official talks between Presidents Vaclav Havel and Francois Mitterrand opened today. They were attended by Foreign Ministers Jiri Dienstbier and Roland Dumas and Czechoslovak President's adviser Alexander Vondra.

Talks between ministers and other members of the Czechoslovak and French delegations began simultaneously.

Czechoslovak president's press spokesman Michael Zantovsky later told CTK that President Mitterrand spoke mainly about the prospects of Czechoslovak-French cooperation and development of a united Europe. The presidents agreed that the unification of Europe must proceed by means of various structures and on various levels. President Havel spoke about the European Community, NATO and other structures helping the process of unification. He mentioned also the Czechoslovak wish that the secretariat of the Helsinki conference be based in Prague.

According to Zantovsky, the delegations dealt in their plenary meeting with the concrete possibilities of cooperation between Czechoslovakia and France.

Participants included Premier Marian Calfa, Economy Minister Vladimir Dlouhy and Interior Minister Jan Langos on the Czechoslovak side and Minister of Industry and Territorial Development Roger Faroux, Minister of Foreign Trade Jean-Marie Rausch, Minister of the Interior Pierre Joxe and Minister of Culture and Communications, Major Public Works and Bicentenary Jack Lang represented the French side.

Premier Calfa expressed Czechoslovakia's interest in French assistance in finding new oil sources, especially in the French-speaking regions of Africa, such as Cameroon and Gabon. Another sphere in which Czechoslovakia is interested in cooperation with France is the nuclear power industry.

Minister Dlouhy noted that partners from West Germany and the United States offer Czech and Slovak companies also participation in production in cooperation projects while French enterprises have offered so far only full imports. Cooperation in production naturally offers better prospects for Czechoslovakia.

Also the car industry was mentioned, namely the joint Volvo-Renault offer to the Czechoslovak manufacturers Skoda Mlada Boleslav.

Havel Addresses Lunch Reception

LD1309184690 Prague CTK in English 1536 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Prague Sept 13 (CTK)—President Vaclav Havel of Czechoslovakia said today that even the suspension of Czechoslova-French ties in 1938 could not wipe out all sympathies Czechoslovakia has always felt towards France.

Speaking at a luncheon to honour visiting French President Francois Mitterrand, Havel went on to point out that the sameful aggression against Kuwait and the subsequent crisis in the Persian Gulf bring to the forefront the old lesson from Munich that the policy of appeasement cannot be successful in the long run, on the contrary it is disastrous. It seems, however, that the world today has advanced, as seen also on the unprecedented line taken by the United Nations.

Havel recalled Czechoslovakia's virtual isolation from Europe for half a century, stressing the need to catch up with everything in what the country lagged behind. Czechoslovakia is very much interested in becoming associated to the European Communities and eventually becoming it full member. "We know this will not be easy but we also know we have friends in Europe", he said.

Havel also said the idea of a European Confederation, suggested by the French president at the beginning of this year, is one of the proposals enjoying Czechoslovakia's full support. Relations with France will be particularly important for Czechoslovakia in this new Europe, he added.

He said Czechoslovakia's one-sided orientation towards one single foreign partner proved to be very inconvenient. Czechoslovakia realizes that it is unwise to maintain economic contacts with only the closest neighbours and France could become a partner for it, with far greater importance than so far.

Mitterrand Speaks of Unified Europe

LD1309185190 Prague CTK in English 1754 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Prague Sept 13 (CTK)—Only a more stable and united Europe will be able to face the danger of instability which has not been removed, and contribute on the political and economic levels to the preservation of world balance, French President Francois Mitterrand stressed here today.

Speaking at a luncheon at Prague Castle given by Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel in his honour, he said that the next summit of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in Paris in November will be the first meeting of a united Europe. It will also be the first international conference attended by representatives of a reunited Germany.

The task now will be to restore and strengthen the Czechoslovak-French relations worth the two countries' histories. While cultural exchange is developing quite satisfactorily, trade contacts and economic cooperation are not yet at the level of the two countries' wishes and possibilities. The transition towards a market economy is not simple and the international economic situation, especially in energy, makes Czechoslovakia's difficult task still more complicated, the French president said and stressed that France is willing to share in the search for solutions, in Czechoslovakia's second, i.e. economic, revolution.

Dealing with the discussions of four powers guaranteeing the post-war development of Germany which were concluded in Moscow yesterday, the French president voiced his belief that the Moscow conclusions correspond with the demands and wish—especially as regards the recognition of the inviolability of the borders. The painful chapter concerning the division of Germany, a symbol and at the same time a consequence of Europe's division, is concluded today. A new chapter is beginning, a chapter hopeful for the whole continent.

The whole of Europe will be a continent, a single union, whose significance will depend on everybody, Mitterrand said and called for deeds rather than for political schemes worked out month after month. He expressed his wish that personalities from all European countries and associations should meet at a session in the forthcoming months and said if Prague agrees to host this session he will come again.

Investment Protection Accord Signed

LD1309180890 Prague CTK in English 1619 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Prague Sept 13 (CTK)—An agreement on mutual support and protection of investments between Czechoslovakia and France was signed at Prague Castle today.

The document, which provides for significant international legal guarantees for investors' activities of the two sides, is expected to encourage the development of bilateral economic relations.

After agreements with Belgium and Luxemburg, Italy and Britain, the document signed with France is the fourth investment agreement which Czechoslovakia concluded in the past two years.

Similar agreements with Sweden, Canada, Switzerland, the FRG and Austria are being prepared. 20 other countries are interested in signing agreements on the protection of investments with Czechoslovakia.

Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier and his French counterpart Roland Dumas signed here today also an agreement on the creation and activities of cultural centres, on the exchange of youth and on cooperation in the sphere of education.

Aid Discussed With Calfa

LD1309222790 Prague CTK in English 2121 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Prague Sept 13 (CTK)—According to Czechoslovak Government spokesman Zbynek Fiala, French President Francois Mitterrand and Czechoslovak Premier Marian Calfa met here today to discuss the political situation in Czechoslovakia.

Marian Calfa informed the French guest of the restructuring of the Czechoslovak Federation. He appreciated the part of Mitterrand's speech delivered in the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly (Parliament) in which he pointed out that Europe expects Czechoslovakia's return as a united state.

President Mitterrand dealt with Czechoslovakia's interest in closer cooperation with some African countries with which France maintains very good relations, above all Gabon and Cameroon which have big oil deposits.

Francois Mitterrand and Marian Calfa also discussed oil problems in connection with the Persian Gulf crisis. The French president said that his country is prepared to help states like Czechoslovakia if the affects of the embargo are too severe, e.g. in oil supplies.

French Envoy Hosts Reception

LD1309225790 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2030 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Jean Francois Gueguinou, French ambassador [to the CSFR], hosted a reception tonight on the occasion of the visit of Francois Mitterrand to Czechoslovakia. Taking part were both presidents with their wives, Alexander Dubcek and deputies of the legislative corps, Marian Calfa, representatives of political parties and movements, representatives of culture and churches, personalities of trade and entrepreneurial circles, and other officials. Following the reception, Francois Mitterrand and Vaclav Havel had a private dinner at the wine bar U Maliru.

Plans To Consult UN on Embargo, Economic Woes

LD1309181990 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Today Jiri Dienstbier, deputy premier of the Federal Government and minister of foreign affairs, asked the chairman of the UN Security Council for consultations due to considerable economic problems in Czechoslovakia as a result of its compliance with the Security Council's resolution on the economic embargo of Iraq.

That is why Czechoslovakia uses its right given by the UN Charter to hold consultations with the Security Council about a solution to these problems.

Government Welcomes German Unification Treaty

LD1309134990 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1250 GMT 13 Sep

[Text] Prague (ADN)—The CSFR today welcomed the two-plus-four treaty on the external aspects of German unification. Lubos Dobrovsky, deputy foreign minister and Foreign Ministry spokesman, stated to GDR journalists that a significant chapter of European history has been concluded with the treaty. At the same time, Czechoslovakia regards the treaty as fulfilling the thoughts written in the founding document of the Charter 77 human rights agreement.

The treaty gives the CSFR security with regard to its borders. Dobrovsky stresses that he is thinking of striking Article 23 from the FRG's Basic Law in this context. All territorial claims would thereby be ruled out. The country, however, is not overlooking the fact that Bundestag deputies are trying to keep the border issue open through complaints to the Federal Constitutional Court. If this finds broad support, then the confidence essential for the security of an integrated new Europe will be undermined.

Dobrovsky, discussing economic cooperation, said the country is sure the Federal Republic will fulfill all its obligations and thus mitigate the negative economic effects arising from the changes in economic relations between the CSFR and the GDR over the past few months.

Vales Reviews Trade Relations With USSR

AU1209161990 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 5 Sep 90 p 3

[Interview with federal Deputy Premier Vaclav Vales by Marcela Doleckova on 1 September; place not given: "A New Stage in Czechoslovak-Soviet Trade"; first paragraph is HOSPODARSKE NOVINY introduction]

[Text] On 1 September Federal Deputy Premier Vaclav Vales signed an agreement with Konstantin Katushev, Soviet minister of foreign economic relations, according to which mutual trade between both countries will transfer to convertible currencies, world prices, and conditions normal in international trade as of 1 January 1991. On this occasion, Vaclav Vales gave an interview to HOSPODARSKE NOVINY.

[Doleckova] Mr. Deputy Premier, will accounts for all Czechoslovak-Soviet commercial exchange really be calculated only in hard currency?

[Vales] In principle, yes. The Soviet Union will become part of the world market. We have managed, however, to agree on a specific transition period for some products—on the Soviet side this applies to supplies of raw materials—which, of course, may be continued in the future. Nothing is changing as far as prices and world conditions are concerned, but the agreement has made it possible to adopt the principle of paying for raw materials with goods. Roughly half of mutual trade would be covered by goods from the so-called indicative lists, on which goods we can guarantee the Soviet Union and in which they would be interested, are listed opposite oil and other raw material supplies.

Indicative lists will be determined by special arrangements at the federal and republican level, if possible at the level of select regions, and will, in fact, represent bilateral possibilities and requirements.

[Doleckova] Will we have an opportunity under the new trading regime to utilize our still active balance with the Soviet Union?

[Vales] This active balance is the subject of further discussion. So far, we have clarified our approaches and how to determine the so-called recalculation coefficient. Our active balance is a kind of insurance for us in case our enterprises do not manage to quickly supply the Soviet market. Let us not forget that raw materials are goods which are paid for in cash on the world market. Therefore, even this year the flow of our goods onto the Soviet market will not be impeded, and we are not setting the level of our active balance from above. It is a pity that it is not higher; if it were, it would serve as a buffer.

[Doleckova] How should the active balance—which would arise as a consequence of the integrative projects—be recalculated?

[Vales] This will be a special part of the agreement about which I spoke. In general, all the previous obligations will be recalculated in a certain way and will become the basis for the further development of trade.

[Doleckova] What kind of chance to you give joint Czechoslovak-Soviet enterprises?

[Vales] So far, they do not actually exist; those that do are joint enterprises in name only. Whether there will in fact be Czechoslovak-Soviet joint ventures depends on whether or they are actually required.

[Doleckova] Mr. Deputy Premier, Czechoslovak trade with the Soviet Union, even this year, represents roughly a quarter of all Czechoslovak foreign trade turnover. The value of our mutual trade turnover is, to date, estimated at 11 billion rubles. Do you think this level will be maintained under the new trading regime?

[Vales] I do not think we will be able to maintain this level. I would consider it a success if we could achieve 80-85 percent of this amount. At the same time, the reason is not that we would have nothing to supply to the Soviet Union. I am afraid that in this area of mutual trade, which will depend on direct contacts between enterprises, it will be very complicated to establish a mutually comparable mechanism. We will discuss all this with our Soviet partner again, both at the federal and the republic level. If we manage to eliminate all the obstacles, there is no reason why the turnover should remain at today's level or, for instance, why it should not even increase. At the moment, of course, we are a little more modest and I think we will be successful if we manage to prevent a decline of more than 20 percent.

[Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech on 6 September, page 8, carries the following correction to the question on whether "we will have an opportunity under the new trading regime to utilize our still active balance with the Soviet Union":

This active balance is the subject of further discussion. So far, we have clarified our approaches and how to determine the so-called recalculation coefficient. Our active balance is a kind of insurance for us in case our enterprises do not manage to quickly supply the Soviet market. Let us not forget that raw materials are goods which are paid for in cash on the world market. Therefore, even this year we will not impede the flow of our goods, within the framework of the annual protocol, onto the Soviet market. We are trying to complete our supplies to the USSR regardless of the restrictions on Soviet supplies to our country. A higher balance gained in this way should act as a more solid buffer.]

Lithuania's Prunskiene Arrives in Prague

LD1409105690 Prague CTK in English 1025 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Prague Sept 14 (CTK)—Lithuanian Premier Kazimiera Prunskiene arrived here for a two-day visit today during which she will have talks with Czechoslovak Premier Marian Calfa, Czech Premier Petr Pithart and Slovak Premier Vladimir Meciar. She will be also received by President Vaclav Havel.

Mrs Prunskiene is accompanied by the ministers of economy and natural resources of Lithuania.

The Lithuanian guests voiced the hope that they will discuss during their visit concretization of economic relations between Czechoslovakia and Lithuania. Vilnius is convinced that Czechoslovakia and other central European countries can help Lithuania significantly in its current effort at political and economic independence.

Contact With European Communities Stressed

LD1109230490 Prague CTK in English 1533 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Text] Brussels Sept 11 (CTK correspondent)—The Czechoslovak Government is interested in launching probing negotiations on joining the European communities already this autumn, according to a letter which Czechoslovak Premier Marian Calfa sent to President of the Commission of the European Communities Jacques Delors.

The letter was handed to Delors here today by head of the permanent Czechoslovak mission at the European Communities Karel Lukas.

The Czechoslovak Government considers the expansion and deepening of the political, economic, financial, scientific and technological, ecological, legal and cultural cooperation with the European Communities its foreign political priority, the letter said.

Deputy Minister Explains IMF Entry Procedure

AU1009082690 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 6 Sep 90 pp 1, 2

["(VC)"-signed report: "Prior to Signing the Agreement With the Monetary Fund"]

[Text] Prague (From our own correspondent)—The president has convened the Federal Assembly autumn session on 12 September. There will be a joint session of the chambers on 13 and 17-20 September. It is expected that the session will welcome France's President F. Mitterrand and Britain's Prime Minister M. Thatcher. The Federal Assembly committees continued their sessions on Wednesday [5 September].

Deputies in the Planning and Budget Committees discussed the CSFR's approach toward the agreements on the IMF, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the World Bank), and a further three associated organizations. Ivan Kocarnik, federal deputy finance minister, first of all outlined the special procedure for gaining entry into these organizations. First, the appropriate agreements have to be discussed and approved by the Federal Assembly, then they have to be ratified by the president. The agreements on entry should be concluded on 20 September in Washington. They are to be signed on behalf of the Czechoslovak side [sentence incomplete as published]

The information about the financial quota for members of the IMF—which is calculated individually for each state according to the size of its gross domestic product, the amount of its imports and exports, the amount of its reserves, and other economic indicators—was also very interesting. In our case, this quota should amount to 590 million so-called special drawing rights which, in recalculation, comes to $768 million. However, 22.7 percent of this sum is paid in freely convertible currencies—that is, $174.3 million—and the remainder is made up of national currencies. The procedure is similar in the other institutions. A member country, however, can draw on the funds deposited and has the possibility of asking for credit of up to three times the aforementioned quota. We believe, stated I. Kocarnik, that we will use some of the fund's foreign currency reserves to introduce internal convertibility. The deputies later agreed unanimously with the CSFR's approach toward these agreements.

Calfa Addresses World Economic Forum in Prague

AU1209065090 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 7 Sep 90 pp 1, 8

[Unattributed CTK report: "At the World Economic Forum"]

[Text] With the participation of our leading representatives from federal and national governments, an important meeting of the World Economic Forum began in Prague yesterday. A high-level meeting was held behind closed doors. Because it is not customary for this organization to publish the names of direct participants, let us mention only some of them: Bata, ABB Asea Brown Boveri, Hewlett-Packard, Heineken, Nestle, Peugeot. World banking circles are heavily represented as well. In order to document the meeting's importance for our economy, we are publishing a brief excerpt from the speech delivered by Marian Calfa.

In his speech, the premier explained the goals of the radical economic reform and outlined a complex of mutually conditioned steps to be taken toward its implementation. We are creating a modern market economy. In other part of his speech he said: We are opening ourselves to the world while creating conditions, a favorable situation, and guarantees for our foreign partners and for a deeper cooperation between them and our economy. We are exploring various ways to ensure guarantees for our foreign partners and investors in our country. We are creating an entire complex of legal guarantees in the form of laws that will be applied to entrepreneurs and we are also making ownership relations clear. In the sphere of international agreements, we are working on a number of bilateral contractual documents that will provide guarantees for foreign investors.

Enterprise needs guarantees. I can assure you of our sincere and efficient endeavor to create these guarantees for our foreign partners. In the view of a unique, and an almost hundred-percent scope of state or similar ownership in the economy, we need private investors, mainly foreign ones. Our citizens' small savings amount only to a fraction of this value—this is why is the participation of foreign investors is necessary. The key word is "privatization" of the existing social ownership by all appropriate and possible means, but, above all, by the means which were successfully tested in the world. M. Calfa spoke further about specific forms of privatization, about creating a complex market, and about the liberalization of prices and the convertibility of the currency.

We are taking all the necessary steps in order to broaden international economic cooperation. We are creating and implementing an appropriate legal system, we are creating and developing classical market institutions—trade chambers, centers for development of enterprise, and various entrepreneurial associations, etc. We will acquire a membership in the International Monetary Fund and World Bank soon. We will become an equal member of the international economic community. Regionally, we want a greater rapprochement with European Community, we want to cooperate more closely in the framework of the Central European subregion. Based on new foundations, we want to develop our economic relations with CEMA countries, including payments in convertible currencies.

We are entering the world and we are trying to create favorable conditions for this entry. A number of things must be done with the help of Western technology. Apart from investors, we are also looking for those with whom we could establish mutually advantageous contacts and who would be able to help us technologically.

Preface Given to Economic Reform 'Scenario'

AU0909171190 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 4 Sep 90 p 1

[Interview with Dr. Engineer Bohumil Studynka, candidate of sciences, general secretary of the Economic Council of the Government of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic by "(js)"-signed HOSPODARSKE NOVINY reporter; place and date not given: "Reform Scenarios Ready for the Parliament"]

[Text] [HOSPODARSKE NOVINY] Today, we publish in our paper the plans for economic and social reforms. We asked Dr. Engineer Bohumil Studynka, candidate of sciences, general secretary of the Economic Council of the Government of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, to characterize for us these two significant documents.

[Studynka] The expected scenario of the economic reform (including measures in the social sphere) is the final product of the work by teams of economists of all our three governments since the beginning of the year. The government approved its penultimate version by the end of May, beginning of June, and its principles were also included in the policy statement of the Federal Government. The Federal Assembly accepted them as such, with a provision that the government elaborates on broader scale and in more detail the brief theses accompanied by a time schedule, and that it marks all points of the necessary conceptual coordination of the individual steps, that it justifies the sequence of these steps, and that it substantially expands some parts of the statement as, for instance, the one pertaining to the ecological sphere.

The plan published in HOSPODARSKE NOVINY today is the document containing specifics, and it represents truly concise material providing information on all key intentions, and on their coordination as to form a complete "package" of reform measures. The meaning of the proposed reform is rooted in its radical, sufficiently rapid, complete, and objectively synchronized implementation. That is expected by the scenario.

The submitted final version is actually a synthesis of all the related discussions and quests for alternatives; it takes into account all experiences—positive or negative—acquired at home or abroad.

[HOSPODARSKE NOVINY] Is there another concept in addition to these proposals? Who took part in the preparation of the scenarios of the Federal Government?

[Studynka] Of course, other possible concepts of the economic reform exist, and they, too, could possibly be successful. As far as I know, the Federal Assembly ordered several of them from the most important Czechoslovak nongovernment economists for comparison in discussing this government concept. That is the correct procedure, because in deciding on such an important issue—for example, a complete change in the economic system and also in the thinking of people—one must proceed carefully. After all, the government scenario itself includes in some places also suggestions of alternate solutions—for instance, in the most complex maneuver (in my judgment), i.e., by the first step on the road toward the convertibility of the currency—in the so-called internal convertibility.

The work on the plan was shared by practically all economic ministers of the Federal Government and by their expert collaborators. Observations by the economic ministers of the national governments were particularly helpful while discussing the material in the Economic Council of the Government of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic. The final version was approved at a session of the Federal Government. Hence, the material is the outcome of the consensus of all three governments and their trusted representatives. Today, fundamental objective differences no longer exist in the opinions held by the individual governments on the concept of the reform. Vaclav Vales, federal deputy premier and chairman of the Economic Council of the Government of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, was entrusted with the coordination and administration of the work on the entire plan.

[HOSPODARSKE NOVINY] What time sequence do you foresee in further dealing with the reform?

[Studynka] I expect that, in the first 20 days of September, the material will be discussed together with other "ordered" scenarios in the Federal Assembly committees, and approximately in the last 10 days at the plenary session. The government economic officials will be available to the Federal Assembly to answer questions or, if need be, amend the material.

[HOSPODARSKE NOVINY] Deputy Premier Vaclav Vales said that if the economic reform scenario were not approved, the government would have to resign. What kind of chance do you think the scenario has?

[Studynka] I believe that it has a good chance of being adopted. Namely, it is neither a result of a sudden inspiration of a genius, nor of a lengthy and dilatory work. It is a product of intensive labor, searching for ways, and possible and realistic passages. At the same time, it is not a dogma—it is flexible in its future application and realization. Namely, it just marks the directions and the main points along the road. Because of its uniqueness and extent, the progress of its realization will be subject to an incessantly ongoing evaluation and regulation. All the changes, which life necessitates and will necessitate, will be continually corrected. Particularly now we see that the world is full of these changes, and they often are unexpected. The Economic Council is precisely the spot where the conceptual discussions and operative management should take place.

[HOSPODARSKE NOVINY] What role in the scenario is assigned to the microsphere—enterprises and other economic subjects?

[Studynka] They are absolutely irreplaceable. The market economy is above all the economy of market subjects and of their mutual relations with a reduced direct authority of the center and a decisive share in the management of indirect macroeconomic tools consistent with the market.

The success of the reform depends on its reception, cognition, and responsible everyday realization in the market among its subjects. It assigns irreplaceable roles to the level of management in the company sphere and to the quality of other market subjects. The key role then is reserved for the banking financial sphere, which must still in advance approximate by the standard of its services, their extent, and quality the services provided in the advanced industrial countries.

Assembly Voices Objections to Economic Reforms

LD1109224890 Prague CTK in English 1540 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Text] Prague Sept 11 (CTK)—Reserves about the blueprint for economic reform submitted by the Czechoslovak Government last week were voiced today at a joint session of the parliamentary committees for finance and budget and for economic policy by experts whose comments had been asked by deputies.

Parliament will discuss the scenario aimed at transformation of the communist model of command management of the economy into a market one at its plenary session in mid-September.

Speaking before a parliamentary committee today, Czechoslovak Deputy Premier Vaclav Vales stressed that the life of the present system cannot be prolonged since it is being disintegrated by itself and since exetrral economic relations are quickly changing. He admitted that the blueprint "somewhat narrows the scope for a social program," but added that the major guarantor of social certainties must be a prospering enterprise.

A representative of the economic institute of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences noted that negative trends in the Czechoslovak economy are long-term and they will be redressed only gradually. He gave backing to the effective units of the Czechoslovak economy which allegedly constitute only one-fifth of all Czechoslovak enterprises. The realization of the reform will bring a 20 percent unemployment rate.

A representative of the "Economic Forum," an informal organization associating Czechoslovak economists—both theoreticians and practitioners, warned that internal price deregulation as from January 1, 1991, will provoke a price shock which can be lethal to a majority of producers.

Professor Milan Matejka from Prague's school of Economics said the concept of economic reform "does not take into account the reality" adding that it was born at the green table on the basis of scientific analyses.

He drew attention to the experience of the so-called newly industrialized states in Asia and elsewhere in the world in which, according to him, system changes that are accentuated in the government blueprint were preceded by "adaptation matter-of-fact decisions." [as received]

Retorting to him, Czechoslovak Minister for Strategic Planning Pavel Hoffman said that the situation of Czechoslovakia can hardly be compared to that in other countries since the country is shifting from a planned to a market economy.

Professor Matejka also rejected the subordination of economic growth to the demands for a financial equilibrium set in the government scenario. Czechoslovak Finace Minister Vaclav Klaus said in this connection that financial equililbrium is necessary and warned against runaway inflation.

Deputies of the two parliamentary committees will express their views tomorrow. Their debate will be largely indicative of whether the government blueprint for economic reform will be approved by the parliament or not.

Foreign Debt Reduced to 7 Billion Dollars

AU0909200990 Prague SVOBODNE SLOVO in Czech 6 Sep 90 p 1

["(c)"-signed report: Reform on the Screen"]

[Excerpts] Prague—Economic ministers of the Federal Government spoke yesterday in front of the TV cameras about the scenario of the economic reform and about the broader context of the transformation of our economy. [passage omitted]

J. Tosovsky, chairman of the Czechoslovak State Bank, gave information on the reduction of our debt—within half a year the gross total was reduced from $ 7.9 billion to 7 billion. Minister Klaus also pointed out that the surplus in the sum of all three state budgets for the first two quarters represents the sum of 5.3 billion korunas. In conclusion, V. Vales observed that the integrity of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic is a matter of principle from the view point of the economic transformation.

Further Reportage on Piestany Meetings

Meciar Comments

LD1109131290 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1210 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Address by Slovak Premier Meciar at a press conference held in Piestany—live; Meciar speaks in Slovak]

[Text] Yesterday's and today's talks here in Piestany were influenced by the fact that the basic concept was already given. We evaluated the practical state of work in the 10 commissions, and we initiated the creation of an 11th. We agreed on an exact future timetable. The work of the commissions should end by 20 September. In cases where questions are not clear by 20 September, a different approach will be taken. Work will continue, and in cases where matters become clear, we will begin legislative amendments; furthermore, we will propose the relevant laws to be passed. The final word, of course, will be that of the Federal Assembly.

We expect that the basic questions of jurisdiction should be solved by 1 January 1991, with the proviso that some points of conflict will take longer to resolve. We consider questions of administration in the area of transportation, rail transport, the areas of tax systems, and some partial matters in the area of communications to be not fully resolved at the moment. We will make an effort to ask for international expertise, so that we can receive advice in this area so that we are able to adjust the state administration in a clear way. There was also an agreement that those activities of an economic character, which are concentrated within the central organs of state management, should be given up by these organs as soon as possible. Our agreement is unequivocal in this area.

We also agreed that in the future we will not consider it acceptable for jurisdiction between the Federation and the republic to be divided in such a way that some areas of state administration fall under joint jurisdiction. Joint jurisdiction means that something is done by one person and another thing by another. We, therefore, propose to create a clear division of what falls within the exclusive executive power of one or other structure of state administration. In areas where this was divided this was a permanent source of further conflicts and further misunderstandings. We expect that the solution to these problems within the appropriate timetable will be one of the sources and strong stimuli for the development of future economic reforms, and sources and stimuli for the development of creative activity on the part of citizens of both republics.

Pithart Reports on Progress

LD1109132390 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1208 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Address by Czech Premier Pithart at a news conference held in Piestany—live]

[Text] We—that is myself, Mr. Calfa, and Mr. Meciar—have been together practically for the past four days. We held talks also at the weekend in the Tatra mountains, having been led by the interest to have yesterday's and today's talks prepared as much as possible, and to ensure that as few open problems emerge as possible. I believe that the weekend was a useful one, and that it influenced both yesterday's and today's talks.

Our talks yesterday and today were held under a strict timetable, because many problems exist. Nonetheless, the characteristic features of the talks was, above all, their businesslike approach and a gradual solution of those problems which at first seemed to be open. I do not claim that there is now nothing to be resolved or that we have reached an absolute harmony on all issues. Nonetheless, we have made a marked progress.

The basic item on the agenda of our talks was to carry out some kind of a stocktaking of the work of those 10 expert commissions which had been set up as a result of our talks in Trencianske Teplice, and which were to prepare for the three governments' and the legislative bodies' draft solutions of the optimal function of both the Federation and the two republics from the viewpoint of their respective jurisdictions. We twice carried out the stocktaking; it resulted in gradual changes for better. We noted that what was contentious only yesterday was less contentious today.

This is how I would like to briefly characterize our talks.

Calfa on 'Fundamental Search'

LD1109133190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1213 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Address by Federal Premier Calfa at a news conference held in Piestany—live; Calfa speaks in Slovak]

[Text] From the outset, my starting point has been that just as we strive in all other areas for a fundamental qualitative change, for new quality, so is it necessary to look for this new quality, where questions of the constitutional set-up are concerned; concerning questions of the concept of the federation and the republics and their mutual relations; concerning questions of the concept of the division of jurisdiction. This is the most significant area we have looked at so far. There is no doubt—and we are all united in saying—that this is not a case of either the weakening of the Federation, or the weakening of the republics, nor the strengthening of the Federation or the strengthening of the republics. It is simply a matter of a fundamental search for new quality as far as the republics are concerned, a new quality as far as the federation is concerned.

From this viewpoint, therefore, we are not returning to the state of affairs of 1968, when a new federation was planned. We simply see this new situation from the viewpoint of the needs of 1990 and the years which will follow. This whole change therefore is taking place in order to ensure that we make the start of economic reform easier, to ensure that we make the start of qualitative changes in other areas, social, cultural, nationality and so on, also easier. If this is our approach to understanding this problem—and in saying this I am giving an answer to a number of speculations which have appeared—then of course I must say that the results of the work of the 10 working groups which we set up are pleasing. Nothing in this is changing by the facts, as stated by my colleagues here, that some questions are not clear. This does not mean that we are not working together; it simply means that things are not clear. Things are not clear concerning transport, where rail transport is concerned; things are not absolutely clear concerning the tax system in particular, because this is an exceptionally complicated problem, and because considerable qualitative changes are taking place.

As my colleagues have already said, these talks were preceded by our joint meeting on Saturday and Sunday in the Tatra mountains. I must say that this has shown itself to be a good way of working, which clears up many things. It proved to be a way of working which we should have chosen from the very beginning; even so, we will make up the time because we will continue to work this way very intensively. In other words, mutual talks show that, in fact, we think in the same way, and that certain ideas arise only because we are using different terminology. As far as the concept and the philosophy of approach are concerned, we are united.

Officials Answer Press Questions

LD1109194290 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1216 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Question and answer session at a news conference by CSFR Premier Calfa, Czech Premier Pithart, and Slovak Premier Meciar, with Slovak Government press spokesman Comaj moderating, in Piestany—live]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Ulmanova, in Slovak] Ulmanova, SLOBODNY PIATOK. Presently, an important issue among questions of the economy is privatization. Have you agreed on the tempo and methods of progress, at least as far as small-scale privatization—which should begin this autumn—is concerned?

[Calfa, in Slovak] We did not discuss the question of privatization or small-scale privatization in detail. We did, however, agree on one thing. By the end of this week, both republics will work out and present for discussion to all three governments the concept for small-scale privatization—that is, in the area of small-scale production, services, and trade. This will be in the form of some kind of principles and a law. We agreed that all three governments should meet, probably also with the participation of the president of the republic, on 27 September. We will discuss this proposal at a joint meeting, and this meeting should produce a joint proposal for legislation which we will put to the relevant legislative bodies. At the same time, we would like to recommend to the legislative bodies that, as they understand the situation and as they see fit, they should make every effort to ensure that this amendment is adopted and comes into effect. We would be pleased if it is acted on in this half of the year.

[Pithart, in Czech] I would just like to add that the three governments will meet in order to first reduce the time needed for the whole process of making points on the proposals; to place emphasis of making points on the proposals; to place emphasis on this problem which, if it is dealt with in the way we foresee, will mean a true and visible start to economic reform—one which is visible to every citizen of the CSFR. This is the reason for this exceptional procedure, which is caused both by the urgency of the work and the time shortage, but which should also emphasize the importance of this matter to the public at large. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified reporter, in Czech] LIDOVE NOVINY. I have two questions. The first, possibly, is for Mr. Calfa and Mr. Pithart—that is, the issue of establishing the constitutional court which has been discussed, and as we have already heard in Slovakia a specific proposal on its concept has been submitted to the Slovak National Council. What is the situation like in the Czech Republic and at the federal level? My second question is for Premier Meciar: As we have heard, one of the topics discussed this morning was the situation of the Hungarian minority in Slovakia. I have spent a few days in southern Slovakia in districts where the percentage of Hungarian population is high. Furthermore, it was my feeling that both sides have quite clean cut views, above all converning the language bill. In this connection, people even speak about the possibility or the demand for the strengthening of military garrisons at the border with Hungary. Can you tell us anything about this?

[Meciar, in Slovak] [passage omitted] Concerning your question on southern Slovakia: Reports and information circulating among the population there are chaotic and confused, and they are not only influenced by the mass media working on CSFR territory; thus certain misinformation arises, and it seems intentional, sometimes. Concerning the stationing of troops—this is not designed to be any kind of a threat. The question of redeployment of troops on Czechoslovak territory is a logical stand of ours which proceeds from the fact that, after 1968, Soviet troops were stationed in traditional centers of Czechoslovak units to a certain extent. By doing this, they pushed Czechoslovak units out and forwards toward the western frontiers. It is logical, as these Soviet units are leaving, that our units are returning back to their traditional centers. The government of the Slovak Republic is supporting this process and will continue to support it in the future, more so because we have to take into account also some other factors. There is the extensive chemical industry there. Which units or garrisons can help in a case of an accident? There are none. We have the nuclear power station in Bohunice, and the second is being built in Mochovce. We have to train specialized units which would be able to give assistance. It is necessary to have units which would be able to help in cases of unexpected natural disasters. We remember the year 1965 in southern Slovakia. We also have to reckon with the fact that the Army also fulfills some other tasks; such as the railway troops, the construction troops, supplement the work of the national economy on the territory of the republic. The Army also has additional roles to the defense role, and these are also necessary.

Let us look at the issue of the protection of the state borders, for example. We know very well how many holes there are in the case of the borders, namely with Hungary—there exists the so-called Balkan smuggling route which is out of control, drugs are being smuggled this way. So then what are we to do! We will not close the borders to honest people; there will be a sufficient number of holes through which they can cross legally. Why should we tolerate such a state of affairs which presently enables uncontrolled movement for those we do not want to have on our territory? Thus the questions about the deployument of troops evoke unnecessarily strong reactions also to a certain extent in the part of the population in South Slovakia. These are our Czechoslovak units, they will not come to occupy anyone, they will not come to threaten anyone, they will go where they are needed and they will fulfill their duties, everyone should view this as such.

Now, concerning the attitude toward Hungarian citizens in southern Slovakia. Here, I would like to say that they are Czechoslovak citizens; if we are to do something and if both sides are (?at fault in something), then this is namely something belonging to a nationality which passes for more—it is being passed for more than belonging to a state unit. If we do give—if we implant in people's conscience some values—then, in southern Slovakia, there is a certain factor of nationalist feelings which is being put above all the humane values of mankind, and which every civilized nation has mastered. If these two things do not become decisive in southern Slovakia, there will be no peace or stability there.

We are watching the situation and its development. We are also watching the attempts of a certain part of the intelligentsia, which badly affect the Slovak part of the population, because somewhere in the Slovak subconscience there still exists an avertion dating from the times of Hungarization and so on. A civilized person, however, should no longer care about this; people should be able to come to terms with this. There exist steps which are not quite acceptable for us. There also exists, to a certain extent, an interference by the Hungarian mass media in our affairs, for example an attempt to influence election results, and so on. We have complained very sharply to the Hungarian side about this. There have been many cases of misinformation by mass media, for example by Hungarian television, and so on. We want to resist this, and this means active propaganda on our part. If there is an impression being created in Hungary that Slovaks oppress Hungarians, then it is necessary for the Hungarians who live in our country to say what the oppression is really like. As for you journalists, you have to report on the kind of rights a

Hungarian citizen has in our country. The view on this, therefore, has to be quite different on both sides.

We demand a consistent repecting of citizenship and all other things stemming from this. If different views exist, which are usually badly reported by the press, for example, I have been quoted and my statements published in Budapest—two words here and there, not even a complete sentence—and then accusing us of wanting various things in Slovakia. [sentence as heard] The facts are somewhat different. We have proposed to hold talks about these questions with the Hungarian Government and Hungarian President Goncz; we are still waiting for an invitation. They are sending us invitations via the press, but they have forgotten to send the actual invitation.

[Comaj] Thank-you. [passage omitted]

[Wagnerova] This is Wagnerova from NOVE SLOVO. The Slovak Government has set up the Ministry of International Relations in Slovakia. It has been said in the Czech Republic that this was a precipitate act. Prime Minister Pithart said at the fourth meeting of the Czech National Council: We clearly advocate a sole federal ministry ensuring a uniform foreign policy of the state. I would be interested to know whether the current meeting influenced your view and in what way and whether this item was also on the agenda of this two-day meeting; furthermore, what is the view of Prime Minister Calfa. Thank you.

[Pithart, in Czech] I also said in the Czech National Council that we regard the area of relations that the Slovak Ministry of International Relations wants to deal with as totally realistic; that the Czech Government, too, intends to initiate and coordinate external relations, but that it merely has a different view on how this problem should be institutionally resolved. I would regard it as unfortunate if we concentrated on the external aspect—on the institutional arrangement—because what is fundamental, after all, is the fact that both republics want to develop external relations—especially inter-regional relations—very intensively. They want to do this in line with foreign policy as formulated by the parliament, the government, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This is the essence of the problem, not what the body or institution which deals with this problems is called.

[Calfa, in Slovak] I have been asked to express myself on this issue. Well, I have already spoken on it in the interview I gave to MLADA FRONTA—where I said, and I shall repeat it although not probably accurately enough—but as far as the substance of the problems is concerned, my answer is as follows:

First, precisely as Mr. Pithart has said, we believe that the new modern republic, which proceeds from a certain national concept, needs logical, normal, and understandable links with the world's regions for its development. We also believe that links with the outside world form a part of economic, political, and cultural life. We, therefore, believe that there is nothing to object to.

Second, on the territory of Slovakia—especially in its capital—there are coming into existence a number of consulates of foreign missions and offices of international organizations. We can foresee that the republican government will set up an institution to deal with such activity.

Third, we expect and place emphasis on members of both our nations and the ethnic minorities being represented in the foreign service. I can imagine that this institution [Slovak Ministry of Internatioanl Relations] is tackling in some kind of comprehensive way the training of such people in Slovakia.

The problem lies in the title and the institution itself, because a ministry is, according to our constitution, a central body of state administration. According to the existing constitutional setup, state administration is carried out in this area by the Federation. We held talks on this matter. The need for such an institution and the content of activity were not questioned. What was questioned was the concept of a central body of state administration, and in this regard, and this has already been made known, we have come to a mutual agreement with the Slovak Government that this issue will be sorted out accordingly. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] OBCANSKY DENIK. I return to the economic problem. I would like to ask in following: What will finally remain in the powers of the Federation, from the economy's point of view. I am asking this because our entire economy has been, for decades, developing in a system of certain monopolies, as we all know and here, for example, in the specific case of the Dimitrov works which is getting into some difficulties, its production is being reduced and there is a danger which can have an impact on both republics. Thus I would like to know, as there may be many cases in the future, how will you deal with this. One more question, if you allow me—you have talked about the 11th working commission—you have not told us, although we have already asked you, what does it deal with. Thank you.

[Calfa] [passage omitted].

[Meciar] Concerning the commission—a proposal was put forward today for the 11th commission to be established. Its birth is linked to the coordination of our activity with the activity of the parliament. The proposal put forward by the governments proceeds from the fact that we want to assist the federal minister of the interior in carrying out urgent changes in the whole system of management of the security corps in the federative republic and in both national republics. Basically, our proposal aims to put in more specific, precise terms the powers of the republics and the Federation, but matters are already so advanced that they are being discussed in Federal Assembly committees. The stands of the republic governments and the Czech National Council and the Slovak National Council, in our opinion, have not been taken into sufficient account. In the Federal Ministry of the Interior, certain trends emerge which are unacceptable to us because they are pointing backwards; they want to strengthen the Moloch which was there in the past. We want to help with the restructuring of this ministry. Thus the help is also liked with the parliament's stand, above all that of its defense and security committees; we have to jointly prepare such a concept of future security services in the federative state that they are under control, and will serve the interest of the population and the state, so that there is not an excessive concentration of power in hands of a certain group of people or certain institutions. This work obviously will take a longer time, and unlike the other 10 [commissions], this 11th group will have a different character and a different composition.

[Comaj] Yes, Mr. Premier wants to say something, too.

[Calfa] I would like to add one more thing to this. This is a proposal tabled at the meeting yesterday, and it has not been closed yet. The difficulty with the proposal, as Mr Meciar said, lies in the fact that the concept of a new security service is already being discussed in the Federal Assembly. Thus it will be necessary to examine the entire situation and decide how useful it would be to set up such a working group, or if the problem should be solved in a different way. In any case, it will be necessary to examine this issue in close agreement with our representative bodies. Thus, it is only a proposal so far; Mr Meciar has defined it very clearly. This working group has not yet been set up and we will have to conduct talks about it being set up, and not only among ourselves.

[Comaj] Thank-you. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] [words indistinct] What is the situation in oil supplies, and is there new information available following the meeting between President Bush and Gorbachev when Mr. Bush proposed to the Soviet Union that United States would invest to improve the quality of oil extraction, but demanded that the investment be repaid in kind, that is in oil. There have already been first reactions and conjectures that Eastern Europe, Eastern European states will be hit by this.

[Calfa] I would like to say that, of course, this range of problems—as you have formulated—was not the subject of our talks. The information now being requested, therefore, does not proceed from our joint talks.

Nonetheless, because the question was raised I shall answer it very briefly. Especially intensive talks are being conducted with the Soviet Union about deliveries of Soviet crude oil to Czechoslovakia. I cannot describe these talks either as pessimistic or optimistic. They are simply taking place. The Soviet Union has substantially reduced the level and promise of deliveries of crude oil compared with the levels of previous years. At the same time it demands that a certain part of the deliveries be paid in hard, freely convertible currencies. Talks are being conducted at the central, republican, and local levels. I beg you to understand that in view of the complexity of these talks, in view of the sensitivity of mutual relations also in the Soviet Union between the center, the republics, and the local regions, we should not give specific information which might made these talks more difficult. At stake is such an important matter for the life of our people, for the functioning of our industry and our economy that we would not want to make a mistake in this matter. I beg you once more to show understanding.

[Bielikova] Bielikova, Slovak Radio: I would like to begin by saying that everything is connected with everything else. I am reacting to what Mr. Pithart said about the coexistence of our nation, what Mr. Meciar said about the Slovak National Party, and to a question asked earlier. For this reason I would like to ask premiers Calfa and Meciar, as representatives of Public Against Violence [VPN], to what extent are you concerned at the moment about the future of VPN? Communal elections are almost upon us, and according to the latest poll it is losing, by about 10 percent. Naturally, if one movement is losing, another is gaining—or, to put in another way, one gains from the mistakes of the other.

[Meciar] As of Sunday both Mr. Calfa and I are members of the VPN council. This is something extra on top of our work, and it does not influence our work in office. In the office of premier of the government you have to serve everyone, even if a party or movement helped you to get there. Doing anything else would not be right. Of course we are concerned about the fate of VPN. We must investigate why this loss is taking place, which is a well known fact today. We are, above all, trying to ensure that capable people are found for elections to local organs of self-administration, that coalitions are formed at local level. We are not saying that there has to be a candidate from every party at all costs; there are not as many capable people as we would like to think today, or as those who think that the only way forward is to replace everyone would like to think. I agree, but replace them with whom? With the highest quality; that is where the problems begin. So personally I would not consider elections to local self-management organs as a decisive measure, because there will be very many coalition representatives. It is difficult to evaluate whether this or that party is winning, because it will be groups.

As far as the character of VPN in the near future is concerned, I am not that concerned about it. If you remember, when we were starting with the elections, I was a candidate in the central Slovak region; we have seven percent when we began the campaign. Mr. Premier Calfa was in the east Slovak region, where it was 10 percent, and the results are known. So we know how to work, and not just how to govern. If we help the movement, then its reputation and everything else will improve and the influence of VPN will be more marked. The mistake is, to a certain extent, that from the point of view of the program many people separate the activity of the government from that of these political movements, as different things. That is not the case, because the governments based their programs on the election campaigns of parties and movements. Now we are realizing these programs. We are not outside this process. If this understanding of the situation is slightly different in Slovakia, I believe that VPN will once again take up its original place, if not a better one.

[Comaj] The last word is for our federal premier.

[Calfa] I would limit myself to answering the question. VPN is basically a movement which truly did a great amount of work and which enabled us to sit here like this, to speak like this, to think here like this, and to prepare new things here. Furthermore, we are not preparing them for ourselves, we are preparing them—or at least we think we are—for our people. VPN won the elections then and became the ruling political force in Slovakia; it then proposed, set up, had the greatest part in the make-up of the Slovak Government and also the Federal Government. VPN had its election program, and this election program appeared within the program statement of the Slovak Government; I must say it also appeared in the program statement of the Federal Government, because the Federal Government is also a coalition government. That is, VPN is cocreator of government policy. Our people will evaluate our work. No one other than our people has the right to evaluate it, and basically their evaluation of the success or failure of our work will manifest itself in the elections; just as it emerged in the elections to the Federal Assembly and the legislative assemblies of the republics, it will emerge in the communal elections. Furthermore, I would just like to say to all our people that they should try in the communal elections to evaluate the whole of the work of the movement, not only locally, but they should try to evaluate it as a whole; in making their choice, to take into account what is in fact happening in our state and who was the cause of the whole of this movement, who heads it. If our people think in this way then I think that the numbers you mentioned, and so on, will look quite different in the end.

Czechoslovak Socialist Party Appeals for Unity

AU1209082690 Prague SVOBODNE SLOVO in Czech 7 Sep 90 pp 1, 4

["(css)"-signed report: "Let Us Seek That, What Keeps Us Together"]

[Text] Prague—Yesterday's session of the Czechoslovak Socialist Party [CSS] Central Committee Presidium, chaired by M. Adam, acting deputy chairman of the party, dealt mostly with the proceedings of the roundtable of the representatives of the individual currents within the party and youth, which took place on Monday, 3 September.

The Presidium again emphasizes that the 24th Party Congress in March declared the amalgamation of the CSS, former Czechoslovak National Socialist Party and Czechoslovak National Social Party in exile into a single party under the name Czechoslovak Socialist Party. Concurrently, the Presidium observes that the result of the amalgamation referendum on the new name of the party will be assessed by the extraordinary 25th Congress. Keeping this and the resolutions of the Central Committee's session in mind, the presidium appeals to the representatives of all currents within the party to give their utmost to the preservation of the party's integrity. The historic commission appointed by the CSS Central Committee will objectively evaluate the past 42-year development of the CSS. The results of its work will be made public.

The presidium appeals, in harmony with a series of resolutions, statements, conclusions, and declarations by the bodies and the local organizations of the party in the regions, to all officials and members of the CSS in Bohemia, Moravia, and Slovakia that they aim their decisions, ideas, and comments at constructive solutions, and that they always try to help the current party to be a worthy carrier of the almost-century-long tradition.

The CSS Central Committee Presidium assessed with amazement the blatant attacks of the convicted M. Stepan in the Czechoslovak Television broadcast. His conclusions regarding the association of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPCZ] with other political parties in the years preceding 17 November 1989 correspond only to the truth of his own view; Czechoslovak Socialist Party members were mostly discriminated against, and to join the CSS was a kind of a declaration of patriotism and disagreement with the policy of the CPCZ.

Wichterle Appointed President of CSFR Academy

AU1109080190 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 7 Sep 90 p 8

[Unattributed CTK report in the "Chronicle" column]

[Text] At Prague Castle, Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel received academician Otto Wichterle, president of the Czech and Slovak Academy of Sciences, and presented him with his letter of accreditation.

Meciar Stresses Slovakia's International Role

AU1409072390 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 10 Sep 90 pp 1, 2

[Speech by Slovak Premier Vladimir Meciar on Czechoslovak Television on 9 September; place not given: "We Will Give Scope to the Young"]

[Text] Another week of intensive work is behind us, work which this time was oriented toward Slovakia's involvement in international relations. The Slovak National Council approved a law on establishing a Slovak Republic Ministry of International Relations. This act led to all sorts of discussions and speculation in the Czech Republic. The question was raised whether the establishment of this ministry is, or is not, in harmony with the Federation's Constitution. There are contradictory opinions about this. In Slovakia we stand by the view that the establishment of this ministry is in harmony with the Constitution. A constitutional court has the right to make a decision on this. So far, however, we do not have a constitutional court. We expect that this will be set up in November. By the end of this year we would also like to have a Slovak Republic Constitutional Court. This court should be able to make decisions in cases involving the violation of citizens' rights and freedoms and in cases when it will be necessary to investigate the legality of decisions made by the future local self-governing bodies and the compliance of their decisions with the generally binding legal regulations.

As a result of these discussions, a working meeting was held involving Slovak Government representatives, Foreign Minister Dienstbier, and his experts. We discussed many important issues. We agreed that the intended contents of the Slovak ministry's activity are not in agreement with our understanding of a single state policy and of a single approach in international relations. A problem, however, may arise abroad where, for linguistic reasons, the concept of "interstate" and "international" is understood to mean the same thing. We agreed, therefore, that it is necessary to change the ministry's name. We agreed at the meeting that it is correct to have an organ headed by a minister to involve Slovakia in international relations and in the international division of labor at a regional level and for us to take further steps. For example, we expect that the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs should have an office of its own in Bratislava. We are of the opinion that the preparation of staff for foreign, diplomatic, commercial, and other services should take place equally in Prague and Bratislava. We are still discussing how to implement this preparation with the appropriate university officials.

We agreed that the number of representative organs in Bratislava will be significantly increased. Within a year there will be approximately eight more of them. We will open new representative and cultural centers so Bratislava should become an important international center.

Of course, the city's officials must also cooperate with us in this task. We want to create conditions in Bratislava so that several United Nations offices can be located in the city. We have adopted important measures which will ensure a better flow of information between the foreign ministry and the Slovak Republic Government. Until recently, there was no flow of information. The situation is better today, but it is still insufficient.

I had several meetings with departing and newly appointed ambassadors and diplomatic representatives. We spoke with all of them about our efforts to present the Slovak Republic more actively in Europe and to bring more attention to our specific economic interests.

We have in mind, for example, assistance in dealing with conversion, energy problems, raw material supplies, and so on.

At the end of the week I participated in a meeting of the World Economic Forum. The discussions were interesting. Representatives of states from all over the world were present. They evaluated our situation and we reevaluated our own points of view. I have to say that, according to the evaluations from abroad, we seem to be in better shape than when we evaluate our situation ourselves. Although we discussed all the economic steps we are taking, however, foreigners are maintaining a certain caution in establishing cooperation and in providing assistance. This indicates that we still have a great deal of work to do in developing our relations with foreign countries and with the European Community if we want to successfully overcome the lack of trust and lack of information.

We are expecting very important visitors in Bratislava this month. I am not revealing any secrets when I say that we are expecting visits from President Mitterrand of France and Prime Minister Thatcher of Great Britain. Important negotiations will be held which should result in specific conclusions.

Following recent discussions with foreign representatives, the project that I outlined in my last television address now seems very promising. We want to select talented young people and give them the opportunity to study abroad for a specific period so that they may return as fully qualified specialists and convey their knowledge to society. We are considering selecting a relatively large number—2,000-3,000 people. Of course, the primary condition for the young people who want to help society and themselves is that they find sufficient courage to undergo the competitions, educational processes, and foreign study trips which we want to provide for them.

As far as direct economic cooperation between individual and foreign enterprises is concerned, the situation is rather complicated. Our foreign partners are, on the whole, well-informed about our conditions and situation; however, they are putting off direct cooperation until we have completely worked out legal amendments and guarantees for the protection of their capital. This will require some time. We have none to spare; we are struggling with it dauntlessly. The situation is the same as far as banking and other types of cooperation are concerned. We are making initial proposals and suggestions, but it looks as if our efforts will bear fruit later.

We also held important negotiations in the Soviet Union. I have already said several times that some raw material supply ties have been broken off. Our government has adopted a so-called three-stage plan. The first stage involves agreements at a federal organ level, the second involves contacts with republican governments, for example, with the Ukrainian or Russian federations, and the third stage involves direct contacts between enterprises. We also discussed these issues with representatives of the foreign trade organizations which have their headquarters in Slovakia. We agreed upon several specific steps; however, much has still to be done.

It seems that the Slovak Republic Government will have sufficient scope and possibilities for creating conditions for the exchange of goods for goods. This, however, requires a new organizational arrangement of people who know how to apply themselves under new conditions. If we want to become involved in European and world events, we have a great deal of work in front of us.

Despite all the optimism—which I never lacked and am not lacking now—and all the effort to establish cooperation and contacts at all possible levels; despite the fact that we shortly intend to send our ministers abroad to establish further contacts; that the Slovak National Council chairman and myself will visit our neighboring states in the foreseeable future to conclude general agreements, I want to emphasize a fundamental principle: If anyone is to help us, then, first and foremost, that help has to come from ourselves, our minds, and our hands. Our own work is the foundation for our future. Yes, there will be help from abroad, but this will take some time. We will have to overcome the immediate period of changes by our own effort and by our own painstaking work.

GERMAN UNIFICATION

***Notice to Readers:** In order to provide information concerning German unification in one location for the benefit of our readers, material on that topic from the FRG, GDR, and other media is now being published in the German Unification Attachment to the West Europe DAILY REPORT.*

Minister Steinberg 'Unofficial' Stasi Employee

LD1309115790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1059 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Environment Minister Steinberg (CDU) [Christian Democratic Union] in the De Maiziere government was an unofficial employee of the State Security Service [Stasi]. Werner Fischer, the former government representative for the dissolution of State Security Service revealed this in the People's Chamber on Thursday [13 September] afternoon. He mentioned this name "only as an example of further members of the government and the People's Chamber who can look back on such a past." He demanded the immediate resignation of Steinberg, who is also spokesman for the province of Saxony-Anhalt. In this capacity he is supposed to conduct business as de facto prime minister of that province between 3 October and the election of the Anhalt parliament.

Charges Called 'Unfounded'

LD1309164790 Hamburg DPA in German 1614 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Berlin (DPA)—The GDR's environment minister, Karl-Hermann Steinberg (Christian Democratic Union), today denied having been an unofficial State Security employee. "Such accusations are completely unfounded," Steinberg stated in response to accusations by the former government official for disbanding the State Security Service, Werner Fischer.

However, Steinberg added that he had written reports on his interlocutors after travelling to the West within the framework of his academic job at the University of Leipzig. They had been the "usual reports" to which every GDR citizen had been "held" when making official journeys to the so-called nonsocialist foreign countries.

Brinksmeier Views Course of Stasi Investigation

AU1309123390 Hamburg BILD in German 13 Sep 90 p 4

[Interview with Dankwart Brinksmeier, former chairman of the People's Chamber committee investigating State Security Service activities, by Peter Brinkmann; place and date not given: "Brinksmeier: Diestel Is Telling Lies—I Did Not Remove Any Files"]

[Text] [Brinkmann] How many deputies worked for the Stasi state security system?

[Brinksmeier] We found a number of file cards with the names of deputies in the central register of the Stasi state security system.

[Brinkmann] Were they all Stasi agents?

[Brinksmeier] This can only be ascertained if we carry out investigations at the archive and the bezirk offices of the Stasi.

[Brinkmann] Why has this not been done yet?

[Brinksmeier] Because the interior minister, in cooperation with the prime minister, stopped the People's Chamber committee.

[Brinkmann] Did the list of names also include government members?

[Brinksmeier] Of course. I am convinced that the interior minister will continue to impede investigations in cooperation with the prime minister.

[Brinkmann] Who knows the names of these deputies?

[Brinksmeier] All heads of the People's Chamber groups know the names of their group members. Minister Diestel, who is now a member of the Christian Democratic Union, is probably highly interested in preventing the uncontrolled publication of these names.

[Brinkmann] Can one expect the disclosure of these names one day?

[Brinksmeier] I am convinced that this will happen, because many are envious of the success of these people.

[Brinkmann] Diestel has accused you of having photocopied files and of having removed part of the files.

[Brinksmeier] Diestel is telling lies. He never allowed me to inspect the files. So it was not possible for me to make photocopies and to remove anything. So far, he has not made any specific statement concerning the place and the date of the removal.

People's Chamber Passes Broadcast Control Law

LD1409025990 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2215 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Shortly before midnight, in the second reading, the deputies passed the Law on Transference of Broadcasting (television and radio) to the legislative jurisdiction of the five future federal laender and "the part of Berlin where the Basic Law has been valid up to this time."

In accordance with this, GDR radio and DFF Television Network are to continue to be run as communal institutions independent of the state and with legal status until the end of 1991 at the latest, insofar as they undertake tasks which are within the competency of the laender. In a short debate the deputies, Lothar Bisky [Party for Democratic Socialism] and Konrad Weiss (Alliance 90/Greens), regretted that the locations on Nalepastrasse and Adlershof would be lost as national stations and production centers.

GDR Wants To Prevent Entry Ban for Soviet Jews

AU1309110290 Munich SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 13 Sep 90 p 1

["pra"-signed report: "GDR Wants To Prevent Entry Ban for Jews"]

[Text] Munich—GDR State Secretary Guenter Krause is to hold talks with the FRG Government to prevent an entry ban for Jewish immigrants from the Soviet Union. This was announced by Almuth Berger, the GDR's representative for foreigners, after the meeting of the Council of Ministers on Wednesday [12 September]. "There are apparently efforts to prevent further the immigration of Jews to the GDR," Mrs. Berger told SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG. There has been no confirmation as to whether Bonn has already demanded a corresponding directive because Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere is still in Moscow.

The Interior Ministry in Bonn has meanwhile denied that it demanded that the GDR Government ban the entry of Soviet Jews. However, in cooperation with the Foreign Office, the German mission abroad has been requested "not to handle entry applications for the time being." The same request was conveyed to the GDR. According to the Interior Ministry, this has become necessary because of the "jump in the number of applications for emigration" by Soviet Jews. Up to 10,000 applications have been received by the FRG Consulate General in Kiev.

Citizenship Granted for 52 Hong Kong Chinese

LD1009175090 Hamburg DPA in German 1357 GMT 10 Sep 90

[Text] Berlin (DPA)—No Hong Kong Chinese have so far formally applied for GDR citizenship. The GDR Government has decided to grant citizenship to 52 rich inhabitants of the crown colony in return for long-term capital investment. Government spokesman Matthias Gehler confirmed in East Berlin today that there is an agreement between the spokesman for the group of 52 and GDR representatives. It spokes of enabling up to 10,000 Hong Kong Chinese to gain GDR citizenship.

The representatives of the GDR have clearly exceeded their competence in this and must expect the consequences, Gehler said. They have been relieved of conducting the negotiations. In any event, no more than 52 Hong Kong Chinese would be granted citizenship, the government spokesman said.

British Industry Interested in GDR Firms

AU1209140790 Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 12 Sep 90 p 17

["Ke"-signed report: "British Call for Equal Opportunities Concerning Investments in the GDR"]

[Text] Berlin, 11 Sep—Impressed by the dynamism with which the FRG approaches the solution of the economic problems in the GDR, British companies have in the meantime grown progressively more interested in investments in this part of Germany. This was pointed out by Peter Lilley, Great Britain's secretary of state for trade and industry, at the beginning of a German-British entrepreneurs' meeting in Berlin, which was also attended by FRG Economics Minister Helmut Haussmann. The British are asking the FRG Government and the East Berlin Trusteeship Authority for equal opportunities compared with their West German competitors as regards the participation in or complete takeover of companies in the GDR. According to Lilley, up to now unclear property conditions, fear of having to assume staffs that are too large, and the problem of old burdens in the environmental sector have held back British companies from involvement in the GDR.

Referring to the express desire of the FRG Government that the Trusteeship Authority issue international bids for all major sales projects in the GDR, FRG Economics Minister Haussmann decisively countered British fears that the restructuring of the GDR economy could be turned into a purely German event. The minister pointed out to the British entrepreneurs present that all incentives decided by the FRG Government to promote investments in the GDR, be it regional promotion programs, cheap investment loans, or labor promotion measures, are available to any investor. Haussmann thus promised the British not only equal opportunities, but also encouraged them to get involved in this area. Since over the next few years the future new laender will be among those market regions in the EC with the highest growth rates, Haussmann told the British, involvement there will even be necessary for a company to keep its share in the German and European markets.

Furthermore, the FRG economics minister also pointed out that, when considering a purchase offer, the Trusteeship Authority has to take into account the effect on competition, the effect on the labor market, and the amount of its own profit. He has the impression that the British are particularly interested in investments in the infrastructure (they have much experience in privatizing public infrastructure facilities) and in financial services of all kinds. Nevertheless, there are also specific talks and declarations of intent concerning involvement in industry. There is the still the disputed case of the Ruedersdorf Cement Works, for which Readymix, among others, is applying. ICI [ICI Pharmaceuticals] wants to take over the chemical fiber works in Schwarzach. Lucas Industries and GKN [expansion unknown] are interested in participating in the automobile subcontractor industry in the GDR. In other sectors, British Gas is ready for involvement in the GDR gas business and British Airways is ready to participate with the GDR Interflug airline. According to Haussmann, the period for hearings has been extended in order to give the British airline and Lufthansa sufficient time to reconsider their competing offers for Interflug.

Defense Ministry Comments on Arms Sales to Iraq

AU1309153990 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian 12 Sep 90 p 2

[Unattributed article: "Defense Ministry Spokesman Refutes Allegation—Hungary Is Not Delivering Arms to Iraq"]

[Text] In connection with information issued by a U.S. news agency, we called General Gyorgy Keleti, Defense Ministry spokesman, to ask him if, by any chance, Hungary was one of the former socialist countries mentioned.

Gyorgy Keleti stated that the Hungarian Republic has no arms deals with Iraq. This is primarily because the government respects and abides by the United Nations Security Council decision regarding a trade embargo, which is binding not only for Hungarian foreign trade, but also for the Hungarian Army. Furthermore, Gyorgy Keleti noted that the arms trade was regulated through a very strict decree issued by the Council of Ministers; the inter-ministerial committee set up by the Foreign Ministry, the Interior Ministry, the Defense Ministry, and the Ministry for International Economic Relations decides on the possible target countries for arms exports, and on when exports are allowed.

When asked about the order of previous Hungarian arms exports to Iraq, the spokesman gave an evasive answer. He reminded us that prior to the implementation of the decree issued by the Council of Ministers at the beginning of 1990, the Ministry of Defense had no direct influence in the activities of arms-exporting enterprises. Given that trade links did exist between Iraq and Hungary, however, it was possible for Hungarian military engineering products and component parts to have reached the Arab country.

President Goncz Departs for Unofficial U.S. Trip

LD1309124990 Budapest MTI in English 1032 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Budapest, September 13 (MTI)—Arpad Goncz, president of the Republic of Hungary, left for the United States on Thursday [13 September], meeting an invitation from the institute known as the Center for Democracy.

Arpad Goncz is due to speak at a bicentenary celebration of the U.S. Constitution.

He was seen off at the Ferihegy Airport by Geza Jeszenszky, minister of foreign affairs, and Charles Thomas, US ambassador to Hungary.

Arrives, Comments in New York

LD1409084590 Budapest MTI in English 0714 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] New York, September 14 (MTI)—Arpad Goncz, president of the Republic of Hungary, arrived in the United States on Thursday, for a six-day unofficial visit.

The president was invited by the Washington-based organization "Center for Democracy", which strives to promote international relations and understanding, and is active with the cooperation and support of both major American parties.

Mr Goncz will, for the most part of his programme, participate as a guest of honour in Washington and Virginia at the ceremonies marking the 200th anniversary of the American Constitution.

The president arrived in New York in the late evening hours on Thursday, and was welcomed by his host, Allen Weinstein, chairman of the Center for Democracy.

On Thursday, the Hungarian UN Representation hosted a reception for the president on the occasion that the Garland publishers recently brought out selected works by Arpad Goncz, in English. Leo Balk, vice-president of the publishers, and Ivan Sanders, professor of the Columbia University, warmly appreciated the activity of Arpad Goncz, the author and literary translator.

In the evening hours, Mr Goncz met with representatives of Hungarians living in New York, in the Hungarian Consultate. Mr Goncz spoke about the situation of Hungarian minorities living abroad. The president said patient diplomacy is needed with which it can be attained, in a few years, that all Hungarian minorities receive the internationally verifiable rights to foster their language and culture.

The Germans in Hungary belong to the German nation, the Slovaks to the Slovak nation, thus the Hungarians living in the neighbouring countries belong to the Hungarian nation, while being citizens of other countries, Mr Goncz said.

Regarding the Hungarian-American relations, the president said profound and promising talks are in progress between the two governments about considerably easing the visa practice, and talks on further easing of the Cocom [Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls] list are also in an advanced stage.

On Friday, Mr Goncz is to receive, at his accommodations, Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, and will then fly by special plane to Washington. During the day, Mr Goncz is to hold a press conference in the International Press Club, and will give statements to several television and radio stations.

Council of Europe Membership Said 'Likely'

LD1309214690 Budapest MTI in English 1825 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Budapest, September 13 (MTI)—The Council of Europe (CE) is likely to accept Hungary's application for membership in late November or early December, meaning that the country can join the organization by next January, a spokesman for the legal affairs and human rights committee of the Council's parliamentary assembly told a press conference in Budapest on Thursday [13 September].

The committee started a three-day session on Wednesday to ascertain whether Hungary was fulfilling the strict European standards for being admitted to the Council. On the basis of talks with Hungarian political leaders, party politicians and members of the opposition, the committee is to file a report to the parliamentary assembly. After the assembly has made an appropriate ruling, the final say on Hungary's admission will be given by the CE committee of ministers.

Finnish Deputy Gunnar Jansson, rapporteur of the legal affairs committee, told journalists that the final version of the report was not yet complete. The committee, however, formed a positive view of the country and made only a few critical remarks.

The report focuses on three major topics. It judges whether pluralist democracy has indeed been established in Hungary. The rapporteur said he was satisfied that the Hungarian parties did enjoy freedom and and adequate financial backing.

The second topic, the enforcement of human rights, is still being weighed up.

Furthermore, the committee is assessing Hungarian jurisdiction. Its brief is to determine whether the legal code of the applicant country complies with European standards and the European convention on human rights, an important condition of admission.

Pieter Stoffelen, the committee's Dutch president, told MTI that ratification of the convention would not be a prerequisite of admission but added that the applicant country should in any case express its commitment to endorsing the convention and adapting its legal system to European standards as soon as possible.

At the committee's Wednesday session, Hungarian Minister of Justice Istvan Balsai said that the entire legal system of the country would assimilate the European practice.

Since this is a time-consuming procedure, Hungary opted to sign the European Convention on Human Rights when it joins the Council, postponing its ratification until the time when it has a more complete knowledge of the tasks of comprehensive legal reform.

European Parliament Approves Resolution on Ties

LD1309221390 Budapest MTI in English 2119 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Strasbourg, September 13 (MTI)—The European Parliament approved a resolution on Thursday, regarding the Hungarian situation and future ties between Hungary and the European Communities. The resolution was carried, with 255 votes for, 15 abstentions, and no votes against.

Otto von Habsburg, representing the West Germany CSU [Christian Social Union] in the European Parliament, told an MTI correspondent that the resolution, approved by a convincing majority of votes, may promote the success of talks on the association the communities are soon to launch with Hungary. It may be to Hungary's advantage that associated membership was declared in the resolution as the final goal of the country's rapproachement to the European Communities, he added.

Antall Congratulates German Leaders on Treaty

LD1309142790 Budapest MTI in English 1104 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Budapest, September 13 (MTI)—Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antal sent the following letter to Helmut Kohl, chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, and Lothar de Maiziere, prime minister of the German Democratic Republic:

"I wholeheartedly congratulate you on the signing of the Moscow agreement, restoring German state unity and reinstating the German people in their right to self-determination.

"The restoration of Germany unity in the centre of a unifying continent in the wake of the Second World War, the following cold war and the years of division is a fact of historical importance.

"The Hungarian nation is proud to have taken the first step, a little more than a year ago, on the road towards the signing of the Moscow agreement.

"We wish you and the German people a peaceful and happy future in the heart of the single European continent."

Jeszenszky on Response to Remarks in Parliament

AU1409091490 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 12 Sep 90 p 5

[Unattributed interview with Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky by unidentified reporter; place and date not given: "Jeszenszky: It Is Better To Speak Out Than To Remain Silent"; first paragraph is NEPSZABADSAG introduction]

[Text] Following a politically controversial statement made in parliament by the foreign minister, the Federation of Young Democrats [FIDESZ], the Alliance of Free Democrats [SZDSZ] and the Hungarian Socialist Party

[MSZP] held a joint news conference. Meanwhile, we asked Geza Jeszenszky if he would have said again what he read out in parliament, had he known that his answer to Katalin Bossany would provoke such a reaction?

[Jeszenszky] To be quite honest, perhaps I would have said or written something different, because I have never offended anybody on purpose, and that was not my intention this time, either. Had there not been certain elements in the question raised by the parliamentary representative, I would not have answered in that way. Moreover, I would not repeat certain things because I do not want to diminish the chances of a dialogue. If I had not said those things, however, they would have accused me of avoiding the actual concrete question.

[NEPSZABADSAG] Were you surprised at the opposition's reaction to what was said? Did it surprise you that they protested by walking out?

[Jeszenszky] I have to say quite honestly that it took me by surprise.

[NEPSZABADSAG] Does this not imply a problem of "emphasis," which is even more interesting in the case of a foreign minister.

[Jeszenszky] In the way I emphasize things?

[NEPSZABADSAG] No, in the things you choose to emphasize.

[Jeszenszky] In fact, we should take a look at the few lines published by MAGYAR NEMZET. The article emphasizes that I attach importance to values which are represented in this country by the Hungarian Democratic Forum [MDF], the Christian Democratic People's Party [KDNP] and the Independent Smallholders Party [FKgP]. I stand for that, and I am quite sure that many people in the opposition subscribe to those values as well. As I see it, either these people are seated in the wrong place, or the parties to which they belong have chosen the wrong tune.

[NEPSZABADSAG] At this very moment, the FIDESZ and the SZDSZ are holding a news conference, and they are talking about a loss of confidence in you. How do you feel about that?

[Jeszenszky] You are the first person to tell me that. It is their business.

[NEPSZABADSAG] If you were observing the Hungarian foreign minister's behavior in parliament this afternoon, from the viewpoint of a colleague abroad, what would your opinion be?

[Jeszenszky] I could say that I would accept a certain type of criticism. For example, this was not a foreign policy issue. It was, however, linked to foreign policy, and I did stress that. I objected to the policy of one of the newspapers—more precisely, to some staff members of that newspaper—owned by the newspaper boss who is seeking involvement in the privatization of MAGYAR NEMZET. It really is not my duty to interfere in domestic policy, but, at the same time, I was not speaking as an independent individual, but as a founding member of the MDF. That is precisely why I take time off from my numerous other duties to attend one or two election meetings, or to undertake one or two personal actions, if I feel like it. I do that because there are now a lot of thinking intellectuals like myself who have been given a political role. It was as an intellectual that I took sides in the development of MAGYAR NEMZET's policy. Then the question arrived, in all haste, whether I would contribute to the publication of my personal letter, and without any knowledge of the context—I did not even look at the letter again—I contributed to its publication. In fact, the original passage I wrote was intended as a greeting to MAGYAR NEMZET.

Minister on Unemployment, Export of Labor

AU1409150690 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 12 Sep 90 p 3

[Interview with Labor Affairs Minister Sandor Gyorivanyi by unidentified reporter; place and date not given: "Italian Trade Unions Have Protested—People who Engage in Trade With Manpower Are Among Us"; first paragraph is MAGYAR HIRLAP introduction]

[Text] The number of unemployed people is increasing slowly but surely, and people who do not find work at home try their luck abroad. We asked Sandor Gyorivanyi whether the government and the ministry have dealt with the possibility of expanding the export of manpower.

[Gyorivanyi] We have established relations, also relations which are governed by intergovernmental treaties. According to an agreement signed with the German minister of labor affairs, 2,000 skilled construction workers left for Germany this year. Between some 100 and 200 people also received work permits in Austria. I know that this is not a large number, but there is also a considerable number of private job seekers abroad.

[MAGYAR HIRLAP] Do you have precise statistics about this?

[Gyorivanyi] We do not have statistics, but we do have a lot of approximate information. There are offices dealing with the export of manpower and they offer our skilled workers at a very low price. For example, some Hungarian workers were recently sent back from Italy because the local trade unions protested against the low wages these people were receiveded. We would like to avoid such cases and to make sure that workers accept jobs abroad on the basis of official interstate agreements. In cases like the Italian one, it is also questionable whether these people have social benefits at all. Various firms, however, have the opportunity to carry out such ill-conceived manpower exports in Hungary.

[MAGYAR HIRLAP] I think this could just as well be called a slave trade.

[Gyorivanyi] Unfortunately this is true, but these organizations fill a certain shortage. The truth is that the people who find jobs abroad do not come to our ministry to complain because they have better conditions than they do at home, especially now, when several thousands workers are losing their jobs.

[MAGYAR HIRLAP] Will the Labor Affairs Ministry comply with this seemingly unchangeable situation?

[Gyorivanyi] Not at all, but I think it would not be correct to speak about affairs which are still being discussed. In any case, all I can say is that we will have talks in France next week, and we would also like to expand our contacts in Italy. Unfortunately, there are a few countries which simply do not allow guest workers to enter. They do, however, allow those in who wish continue their studies. Therefore, there is a solution: We are preparing to sign business contracts which include both work and studies.

Statistics on Price Increases, Economy Published

AU1309151790 Budapest NEPSZAVA in Hungarian 11 Sep 90 pp 1,5

[Unattributed report: "Food Prices Went Up By 34 Percent—Wages Are Lagging Behind Inflation"]

[Text] How much money did people living from wages possess, and what price increases did they have to overcome in the first seven months of 1990? How did our overall economic situation change in comparison with the families' budget? The most recent statistics give an answer to these questions.

Per capita gross average monthly wages stood at 11,937 forints, or net wages of 9,203. This was 21 percent higher compared with the same period last year; however, prices also increased considerably during this period. Retail trade prices increased by 26 percent compared with the prices in the first seven months of 1989. Food prices increased particularly— by 34 percent in seven months.

Industrial production shows an interesting picture. On average, industrial production decreased. This reduction, however, was mainly characteristic of enterprises with more than 300 workers, where production in the first seven month of this year decreased by 12 percent. At the same time, the production of smaller units that employ fewer people, but at least 50 workers, grew by 21 percent. According to estimates, the production of units operating with fewer than 50 people increased 2.5 times. Because of their limited production capacity, however, they could only reduce, but not compensate for, the decrease in the production of large-scale enterprises. (Production decreased mostly in the basic materials sector and in the processing industry, namely in the engineering branch.)

According to preliminary data, agricultural cooperatives harvested a medium-size production of corn, or 7.9 million tonnes. This is four percent less than last year. The current production of 6.1 million tonnes of wheat is 5.4 percent less than last year.

Foreign trade can come up with the most positive economic figures. In convertible currency, the country achieved a surplus export of $601 million in the first seven month of 1990, or five times as much as in the same period last year. Although the turnover of goods accounted in rubles dropped, namely by 18 percent in imports and 32 percent in exports, this led to the situation that, as a result of the forced change in the markets of Hungarian enterprises, the dollar surplus in our balance of payments increased considerably.

There were 42,000 unemployed people registered in the middle of 1990 (but the real numbers are higher because not every unemployed person registered with the labor exchange offices); the number of job openings stood at 38,000. It is another matter that the desires of job-seekers did not cover the manpower requirements.

Grain Exports Above Established Quota Frozen

LD1309163690 Budapest MTI in English 1310 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Budapest, September 13, 1990 (MTI-ECONEWS)—In a bid to ensure a smooth domestic supply of grain, all grain exports over and above the quotas stipulated in inter-state agreements have been halted, Mr Laszlo Sarossy, state secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture, told MTI.

The Ministry of Agriculture has contacted the National Command of the Customs and Excise Office to alert them to the fact that foreign citizens have been reguarly exporting sizeable quantities of Hungarian grain over the last few weeks.

The state secretary called for more stringent customs checks to put a stop to the export of grain, a commodity already scarce in the country anyway.

The Ministry does not propose cutting back on exports covered by inter-state agreements or revising contracts made by companies for grain exports, but will subject all export licene applications to case-by-case scrutiny.

The Hungarian-Yugoslav border crossing point at Roszke has seen the largest illicit exports of grain by private individuals.

Future of 'Democratic' Polish Television Viewed

PM1209104090 Warsaw POLITYKA in Polish
11 Aug 90 p 8

[Tomasz Goban-Klas article: "Whose Television?"]

[Text] I do not know whether Poland can be democratic without a modern-style party apparatus. But I am convinced that it cannot become democratic without a radical transformation of the public information system. This is because democracy demands that citizens be kept informed about all major ongoing political and economic developments in a comprehensive, reliable, and timely manner, so that all the decisions they make can be based not only on their subjective opinions—or, rather, misconceptions—but on unrestricted and reliable information. It also demands that people be free to express their various views and opinions without the restrictions of censorship—whether in its formal guise or of the more subtle, informal kind, following from a particular organization of the whole information system.

Admittedly, the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] has disappeared from the political scene, but its influence is still noticeable, since it operated in the sphere of information (ideology and propaganda)—not directly but, apart from the agency of the Workers' Cooperative Publishing Concern [RSW] which is now also defunct, through its policy of monitoring the state information system. And, of course, this system has survived. In addition to such monopolistic institutions as the Post Office, Television, and Radio, it embraces also such less prominent institutions as, for example, the Polish Press Agency, which still holds a de facto monopoly on both foreign and domestic information.

Of course, under contemporary circumstances both the state and the government (as the state's central administration) must have their own communications systems. The difference is that these are not concerned with relaying current information: Instead, they provide information about and comment on the current acts, projects, and planned government undertakings. As a result, both officials and private citizens find out about the details of all the latest changes in customs duties, taxation, pensions, and wages from special publications and leaflets, instead of first hearing about them from the televisions news programs.

The new political forces are very anxious to have their own mass informations organs, and they particularly aspire to have direct control over the mass media, or at least direct access to them. The modern approach to the information system is different. It is based on independent, mostly private, organizations which derive their income from selling their services, and also on professionals who select and process information with consumers, rather than political forces, in mind. The latter turn out political statements rather than televisions programs, or at least their own news programs. The era of everyday party press belongs to 19th-century European practice, whereas party-controlled television existed only in the communist system.

The State Decides Everything

The Telecommunications Acts was passed in 1984. It reflected the spirit of martial law and was already anachronistic in that exceptional period of history. It reinforced the existing state monopoly in the sphere of telecommunications and it even introduced additional restrictions. Since then, despite the change of government, there has been no change in this area, though the urgent need for such a change is all too obvious. It was not until May this year that a relevant parliamentary bill was submitted to the Sejm. Though it proposes the abolition of the state monopoly, it contains so many qualifications and exclusion clauses that in effect the state still decides virtually everything. Particular suspicion seems to have been reserved for the share of Western capital in media companies: It must not exceed 20 percent of any company's shares. And, since modernization of our telecommunications facilities will involve the application of up-to-date—that is, Western and expensive—technologies, the question arises of who is supposed to provide the remaining 80 percent. The same applies to the setting up of new television networks and—to a smaller extent—radio broadcasting networks.

Though, admittedly, the bill allows for the creation of private and public telecommunications organizations—for example, local community television networks or radiotelecommunication cellular networks—it still leaves the giant telecommunications companies (comprising mainly the Post Office, Polish Television, and Polish Radio) in the government's hands, even if this is based not on the principle of exclusive monopoly but on that of preference. A highly symptomatic clause in Article 34.1 of the bill declares that "All references to 'The Post Office' in the text of this bill will be taken as referring to 'Polish Post Office, Telegraph, and Telephone Administration [PPTT].'" This illustrates well the illusory character of the demonopolization. While it is possible to obtain a licence to provide postal (and telephone) service to the public, this service must remain under PPTT control—that is, under the control of the institution with which the new service is supposed to compete!

On the strength of the act on church-state relations, the bill clearly accords preferential status to the Catholic Church, which will have priority of access to radio broadcasting facilities; on the other hand, it gives the government total control in the sphere of granting licences to other broadcasting entities, such as private stations, joint partnership companies, and public organizations. Full power over these is to be given to the communications minister and not—as elsewhere in the world—to an independent official body which is not itself involved in the business of running telecommunications or television networks, or postal service systems.

Consequently, even if the bill constitutes a step in the right direction, this step is so small as to be virtually imperceptible. At this rate, we could stand a chance of catching up with Europe in the 22d century.

Admittedly, the preamble to the Telecommunications Bill stresses the need to prepare a new act on radio and television, but it emphasizes that this will require an extensive amount of preparatory work and much negotiation. Consequently, the government has decided to defer the matter indefinitely.

Such caution is highly significant when compared with the haste with which the decision on the liquidation of the RSW concern was made. True, the decision was made by the Sejm, but it was certainly the government which independently endowed it with executive powers when it created the Liquidation Commission. Nothing comparable seems to be in prospect as far as the Radio and Television Committee [Radiokomitet] is concerned. Incidentally, it is worth pointing out—even though it is a bit like serving mustard after dinner—that the RSW was not a monopoly holder in either the legal or the practical sense, since it had access only to the larger part of the available printing paper resources, but not to all of it. The liquidation of the RSW was a political act, the destruction of a huge and powerful propaganda organization, but it must be said that the RSW had its counterparts—at least when it came to its size and nature—in a number of massive press concerns in the West. The only difference is that the latter are commercial concerns, developed in the process of natural competition, and not ideological media empires. On the other hand, the Radio and Television Committee has its own equivalents only in certain authoritarian black African states and, naturally, in the former countries of so-called real socialism.

This can be best exemplified if we take a look at the most significant case: that of television news programs. In theory, we have a number of different news programs to chose from every day. In practice, they are all similar, if not identical. They are prepared by the same massive, monolithic organization; they fail to offer any alternative news packages or specialized information; and they only vary in the form in which the same news is presented. Furthermore, the "Wiadomosci" news program is unrivaled simply because of the time at which it is broadcast and because of its length. Everything that is considered important is shown on "Wiadomosci" and, conversely, if something is not included in "Wiadomosci," it cannot be important, by definition. Personalities which do not figure in "Wiadomosci" programs have no existence on the Polish political scene. It is small wonder, then, that the struggle over "Wiadomosci" and the attempts to manipulate its contents (of which Jacek Snopkiewicz, the program's chief editor, has complained often enough in public) are doomed to last forever with the present model of television news presentation policy.

Control of Hearts and Minds or Information Service?

General de Gaulle used to say: "I will keep television and leave the press to my enemies." And, despite a considerable number of highly instructive cases (consider, for instance, the fate of many devotees of such an application of television, such as Gierek, the shah of Iran, and even De Gaulle himself), politicians continue to believe—especially in countries where democracy is still new—that whoever has the television service holds the real power. Hence the constant complaints about insufficient air time available and about editors' cuts or misrepresentations made in programs. Each individual political force would prefer to control television all by itself, especially if it fails to exert sufficient control over its own members or to win over new supporters to its cause. If, then, television is not to be the proverbial bone of political contention and an organization within which a political purge and vetting procedure takes place after each and every government change or crisis, it must remain independent—independent of all political forces as well as the government. Consequently, it should not be allowed to remain a monopolistic, or monolithic, structure.

The greatest weakness of the commonly held view of television is its perception exclusively in terms of the previous frame of reference, that is, as the Radiokomitet itself. However, no real reform of television can take place in Poland through a rearrangement of the structure of the Radiokomitet alone.

The new telecommunications bill submitted to the Sejm is heavily influenced by the philosophy of state control instead of that of liberalism. Consequently, it requires a radical change of policy angle. However, even a breach of the state monopoly will encourage the boldest and most persevering individuals and bodies to set up their own broadcasting stations (these can be expected to operate mostly as FM stations and local community television stations using cable television systems). As a result, the question arises of the criteria for granting licences to such broadcasting stations and, subsequently, the criteria for assessing their work (having granted a licence, you should then periodically check whether its terms are adhered to.) It will be necessary to create a special office, fully independent of the telecommunications minister and endowed with relevant monitoring powers.

Since it would be unrealistic to expect that an alternative, national television, or at least radio, network could be set up in the foreseeable future, we must assume a continuation of the existing massive radio and television network. A partial solution to the problem could be achieved by splitting up the television network (after France's example of years ago) into two entirely separate organizations: first and second programs. This solution was suggested already during the roundtable conference by the then opposition side. The separate programs would have two independently appointed chairmen, both accountable to a new Television Council—an independent, albeit representative, body appointed by the Sejm and serving for a term of several years' duration.

The Most Highly Objective Professional

The central aspect of a new legislative regulation covering the future television system—including and relevant mainly to the Radiokomitet—will be the definition of the professional status of its employees.

Clearly, it is necessary to depoliticize the journalistic profession, and this is only possible in the so-called mass media, that is, public means of communication used by a large proportion of consumers or, as in the case of television, used by consumers on a virtually nationwide scale. It is neither necessary nor desirable to "depoliticize" journalists working on small papers and bulletins, opinion group publications, or organs of a variety of parties and organizations.

In the case of television, party-affiliated journalists who will defend and promote exclusively their own cause, should be replaced by professional journalists who will follow publicly approved ethical and professional criteria. These criteria include scrupulous, reliable, and most objective reporting.

In addition to being guided by the ethics of public accountability, these professional journalists should be able to enjoy the sense of secure employment as long as they observe the rules underlying these ethics. Thus, they can be dismissed by their immediate superiors, but only after consultation with the appropriate professional organizations when the given employee has been shown to have broken the rules of the profession or not to obey them at all. In turn, those in the very top executive positions should be be appointed for longer periods of time—up to several years—so that they could gain a reasonable degree of political independence.

In the end, it will be our newly emerging democracy which will decide about the public information system which we are to enjoy in Poland. If it continues the accustomed methods of the recent past, with only a change of orientation to mark the difference; if in its ideals of freedom for the press it refers constantly and exclusively to the interwar period in Poland, when the specter of authoritarianism was haunting Europe, it will certainly not permit the creation of a public information system in line with European standards. In the meantime—just as in the parable of Solomon's judgment in the case of the child claimed by two mothers—the national television and radio network should be turned over to that force which—for the good of the "child"—is prepared not to seize it and use it to its own advantage. And all others should set about creating their own broadcasting stations.

Ministry Considers Buying Western Fighters

AU1209145790 Warsaw SZTANDAR MLODYCH in Polish 10 Sep 90 pp 1, 3

[Wojciech Luczak report: "Will the Defense Ministry Buy in the West?"]

[Text] Some 12 months ago the Polish Air Force played its ace card amid a feeling of great celebrations. On 23 August, during the former Air Force Day celebrations (23 August is the date of the first combat sorties of the former People's Air Force), they showed off a modern MiG-29 in Polish colors for the first time.

A year has passed and the analysts at the Ministry of National Defense are now seriously considering the possibility of equipping our fighter squadrons with Western fighters. SZTANDAR MLODYCH learned that there is talk of American F-16's and French Mirage-2000 fighters.

In 1988, the first group of Polish pilots were selected to undergo training on MiG-29's in the Soviet Union. It was decided that the first formation to receive the modern fighter would be the 1st Fighter Regiment "Warsaw" stationed in Minsk Mazowiecki. At the end of 1989, we had seven single seater MiG-29 fighters and four twin-seat trainer-fighters versions. At that time we were paying the Soviet Union some 19.1 billion zlotys [Z] for one aircraft and we were the tenth country in the world that had decided to purchase MiG-29's.

The decidedly outdated equipment of our fighter squadrons (for example MiG-21F's), requires an urgent replacement program. However, because of the rather critical nature of the Polish state's finances it was decided to substantially reduce the number of fighter aircraft and supplement our strength periodically by small groups of MiG-29's. At the beginning of 1990 it became clear that we would only be able to purchase five more MiG-29 aircraft and that the price for a single aircraft had now risen to Z39.4 billion.

In the meantime, Europe, Poland, and the Soviet Union had changed beyond recognition. The Warsaw Pact is now on the brink of total disintegration. Beyond our western boundary we are seeing the emergence of a neighbor who will have to be taken very seriously indeed. "Fraternal relations" with our most important supplier of military hardware are slowly fading into memory. As of next year we shall switch over to market principles in our trade relations with former socialist countries and the Soviet Union. Moscow is vigorously demanding hard currency payments for any future deliveries of MiG-29's, as well as world prices. The Soviet Union exports its MiG-29's to many countries of the Third World (the most important client is India, but the aircraft have also been supplied to Syria, Iraq, and North Korea). The negotiated price for the airplane is of course kept secret, but it is no secret that the producer costs its aircraft at $23-28 million apiece.

SZTANDAR MLODYCH has learned that the Polish team that was negotiating future supplies of these aircraft in Moscow was received very coolly and encountered many obstacles. A question mark now hangs over future supplies of these modern fighters. At first, the Russians insisted on world prices payable in dollars and its was only after very arduous negotiations that they agreed to lower prices by approximately 20 percent and deliver these aircraft for $18 billion apiece.

Such a position forced the Ministry of National Defense to do a deep rethink. Minister of National Defense Admiral Piotr Kolodziejczyk recently made it known that the price of a MiG-29 had increased eightfold and, given the development of the situation in Europe, his ministerial experts were now also evaluating the possibility of purchasing modern fighters from the West. SZTANDAR MLODYCH learned that contracts with the Soviet Union might be scrapped (there is a possibility of having one or two squadrons equipped with MiG-29's), and in the future the ministry might look to the West. The possibility of purchasing American F-16 fighter-bombers or French Mirage-2000's is being considered. Theoretically, it is possible to purchase MiG-29-class aircraft on cheaper terms, but this is only half the story, because one will also have to purchase spare parts, weaponry, and guidance systems. Hitherto, everything in the Polish Air Force has been geared to Soviet equipment. In monetary terms, it would be like purchasing not one, but one-and-a-half aircraft in the West, said one of the Polish experts. This too has to be taken into account.

Silesian Committees Not To Use 'Solidarity' Logo

LD1309033790 Warsaw PAP in English 2253 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Katowice, Sept. 12—The board of the Silesian-Dabrowa Solidarnosc region decided to deprive citizens' committees in this region of the Union's name and logo.

They were given to citizens' committees for the duration of the electoral campaign to the Sejm and the local self-government.

The Union cannot be identified with the power camp, the activity of any party, association and political grouping, they said.

We hope that citizens' committees, not deprived of their own identity, will continue to be actively committed to the restructuring of Poland, the resolution says in conclusion.

Solidarity National Commission Presidium Meets

LD1209091990 Warsaw PAP in English 2209 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Text] Gdansk, Sept. 11—The presidium of the national commission of the Solidarity trade union held its meeting here today to discuss employees' disputes taking place in various branches.

After being acquainted with the situation in the Polish State Railways (PKP), it was stated that talks held between union organizations and PKP's management give certain hopes of solving wage problems of this group of employees, however those solution would be of a temporary character.

The presidium was of the opinion that along temporary solutions, there is a need for the undertaking of complex talks with government representatives on the working out of mechanism of wage increases for all enterprises subsidized by the state budget.

It was also stated that it is necessary to introduce the already agreed decision on structural changes in the PKP what is linked with the need for a quick amendment of the law on railways, on the state enterprise PKP and the law on transportation.

The presidium decided to turn to Barbara Malak to withdraw her resignation from the post of press spokesman for the national commission. She decided to resign a week ago after the national commission had resolved to take the Solidarity logo away from the GAZETA WYBORCZA newspaper.

'Solidarity' Commission Attacks Parties' Law

AU1209083790 Warsaw TYGODNIK SOLIDARNOSC in Polish 7 Sep 90 p 11

[Text] The JOURNAL Of STATUTES (Number 54), published the text of the law on political parties, which was passed by the Sejm on 28 July 1990. The issues addressed by that law have a fundamental importance on the way parliamentary democracy is to be developed in Poland. With regret, we feel ourselves obliged to declare that in their essence the provisions of this law are designed to impede the development of new political parties that have their origins in the struggle against communist totalitarianism.

The law allows the Constitutional Tribunal to scrutinize the content of party statutes and programs and even prohibit political activity on the basis of very general and ambiguous legal criteria. We want to recall that the Constitutional Tribunal, contrary to what its name implies, is not an independent judicial organ, but a political institution appointed by the Sejm. The composition of the present tribunal was constituted under the former Sejm and does not even reflect the composition of the present parliament which emerged from the "roundtable" accords. The judges that serve on the tribunal are not independent and are only appointed for a period of time. Making political parties and movements subject to such political supervision puts them in a worse position than simple associations.

Article 6 of the law on political parties prohibits parties from "benefiting from any kind of material support or financial assistance from foreign persons, as defined by the currency law." This provision gives a material advantage to those parties that are the remnants of the former communist system and which during the years of the Polish People's Republic accumulated great wealth from public assets. They have preserved substantial amounts of this wealth to this day. The situation of new parties is diametrically different in this respect. The sudden pauperization of the overwhelming part of Polish society and the very limited scale of private enterprise has meant that various new organizations and social initiatives are forced to seek financial assistance from abroad, especially from Polish emigre centers. These emigre centers are often ideologically close to the new parties and movements and in the past have often been a source of financial assistance. In this respect the law is doubly discriminative, namely, on the financial and the moral plane. Emigre centers that have for decades made sacrifices and continuously fought for the Polish cause are now to be excluded from participating in the political life of a Poland that is regaining its independence. This seems even more unfair, because other concurrent legislation that the Sejm has adopted will allow foreign capital to finance our mass media, which, after all, is also a political instrument that exerts a great deal of influence.

To sum up, the law on political parties is a typical product of an obsolete political pact, thanks to which 65 percent of our present parliamentary deputies owe their mandate. We call upon all independent parliamentary deputies for whom democracy is not just an empty word to take legislative measures to alter the law on political parties.

Members of the Political Commission of the "Solidarity" Chairman's Citizens' Committee: Piotr Baumgart, Wieslaw Chrzanowski, Roman Duda, Stefan Kurowski, Wojciech Lamentowicz, Jan Olszewski, Zbigniew Romaszewski, Andrzej Sicinski. Chairman of the "Solidarity" Chairman's Citizens' Committee: Zdzislaw Najder. Secretary: Wojciech Wlodarczyk.

Mazowiecki Proposes Council of Ministers Changes

LD1409123490 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0712 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Speech by Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki at the Sejm session in Warsaw—live]

[Text] Mr. Speaker, may it please the House. A year has passed since the formation of the government under my leadership. I am deeply convinced that the changes that have taken place during that time will be positively judged by history. Poland has moved far away from the state of external and internal captivity. It has become a free country. It has made significant steps on the road to full democracy, to a market economy, to a pluralist, open society. In our government work we try to be particular about the fact that the economic, social, and psychological costs carried by the nation be as low as possible. They are, however, substantial; we are aware of this. Those who think that these costs can be eliminated are hoping against hope. Easy, fast, and cheap solutions to dramatically sophisticated problems of our country are a promise which no one can fulfil. Coming into the final straight of progress, prosperity, and stable democracy requires brave, persistent, and joint striving toward the direction we all desire to achieve.

Now is not the time to make assessments, counting achievements. This, after all, is not my intention. Both the esteemed chamber and my government face a limited time for work. Our common mission is to bring Poland to full democracy as soon as possible in the conditions of stability, respect of the law, and—what is especially important today—pushing forward the indispensable economic transformations. Both the government and the esteemed chamber will be judged according to how this task is implemented. The period now beginning—the progress of which is to be discussed during the next Sejm sitting—may therefore be called a period of transition to full democracy. The government faces numerous tasks during this period, which it ought to implement in the most efficient way possible.

With this aim in view, I present to the esteemed chamber the candidacies of three ministers whose participation in the government will allow for a more dynamic reply to the challenges which we face in three important areas of the government's work. I am talking about the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Economy; the Ministry of Communications; and the newly created Ministry for Ownership Transformations. I need not say how very important agriculture is for the national economy, and how significant a role the farmers play in society. The task of the new minister will be: to strive toward effective changes in the agricultural environment, which continues to be uncompetitive and therefore, inefficient; to introduce agriculture to the rules of the market economy, [word indistinct] to avoid a collapse in the confidence and the sense of his work of the efficient farmer. This task can only be implemented out of a sense of common concern, and not with intensifying conflicts and misunderstanding.

The Ministry of Communications should, above all, conduct the necessary, speedy modernization of the telephone network. Without this, there is no modern economy, and also, no modern state.

Finally, the new Ministry for Ownership Transformations faces the extremely important task of initiating and coordinating the process of ownership changes, so that we can finally get beyond the economic structures which have contributed to the country's ruin.

In this sphere we are beginning a task which has not been taken up by anyone on such a large scale. It requires bravery, decisiveness, but also prudence.

Mr. Speaker, may it please the House. I propose that Mr. Janusz Bylinski be appointed to the post of minister of agriculture and food economy. As a farmer and peasant activist he knows the problems of agriculture and the Polish countryside well. In 1980 he was one of the founders of the NSZZ-RI Solidarity [Independent Self-Governing Trade Union of Private Farmers], and his candidacy has now received the support of this union. As the chairman of the Sejm Agricultural Commission he is well known to the esteemed chamber. I believe that this experience will support him in his post of leading the Agriculture Ministry.

In the field of communications I would like to announce to the esteemed chamber that Mr. Marek Kucharski has tended his resignation from the post of minister. I propose that this resignation be accepted and that he be recalled from the post of minister of communications. I express my thanks for his work in the organizing of the ministry. I propose that Mr. Jerzy Wiktor Slezak, a telecommunications engineer, an SD [Democratic Party] deputy, be appointed to the post of minister of communications. The professional experience of Mr. Jerzy Wiktor Slezak, his knowledge of the functioning of the economy and state administration, and the well of personal energy, allow me to express my conviction that he will cope with the duties of minister of communications.

In connection with the creation of the office of minister of ownership transformations, I propose that Mr. Waldemar Kuczynski be appointed to this post. I have cooperated closely for a number of years with Waldemar Kuczynski. In 1980, he was an adviser to the Interfactory Strike Committee at Gdansk shipyard, later, the deputy chief editor of the then TYGODNIK SOLIDARNOSC, and, for the past year, under secretary of state in the office of the Council of Ministers and head of the prime minister's advisory team. From its inception, he has made a distinguished contribution to the work of the government, particularly in the economic sphere. Aware of his economic knowledge, his understanding of the realities and needs of the Polish economy, and finally, his ability to combine this knowledge with social and political intuition, I am convinced that he will discharge his difficult and, at the same time, innovative duties as minister for ownership transformations, well.

I ask the esteemed chamber to accept the submitted proposals for changes in the composition of the Council of Ministers. [applause]

[Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish at 0719 GMT, in its continuation of the live relay of the Sejm session, reports that the Sejm voted in favor of making Waldemar Kuczynski the new minister of ownership transformations, Janusz Bylinski the new agriculture minister, and Jan Wiktor Slezak the new minister of communications. The Sejm also voted to recall Marek Kucharski from his post as minister of communications.]

KLD Leader Interviewed on Upcoming Elections

AU1209123690 Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 8-9 Sep 90 pp 1, 2

[Report on interview with Donald Tusk, member of the Liberal-Democratic Congress, by Piotr Skwiecinski; place and date not given: "We Do Not Want To Be a Mass Movement"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted]

[Skwiecinski] The crowning achievement [of your activities] was the formation of a political party, the Liberal-Democratic Congress [KLD].

[Tusk] The party was registered in June 1990. It has people from business circles and other associations, such as the Warsaw Economic Action. Sejm deputies such as Jan Krzysztof Bielecki, Andrzej Zawislak, Zbigniew Rokicki, and Andrzej Arendarski are also members. We do not want to create a mass-membership party. We are more interested in the quality of our members and the contacts they have with other associations. We are aware that Polish conditions make it hard for a liberal party to gain wide popularity, especially if it runs on a "committee" system, as the West calls it—namely, with no party structure. If we want election success we must join a coalition which will put forward a general pro-capitalist policy. Economic change is crucial for us. Under no circumstances would we join a front which forced us to disavow our free-market principles.

[Skwiecinski] The KLD, however, is part of the Center Accord and its program is said to be superficial, based on wishful thinking, and its leaders often accused of populism.

[Tusk] The accusation of superficiality can be leveled at all our political parties. I must admit that no party has a program that assures victory. We are allied to the Center Accord, because it is strongly pro-capitalist. As for populism, of course there are doubts about certain Center Accord people, but I think this can be said about all large political formations.

In the upcoming elections, Center Accord and the Alliance for Democracy will be powerful. We have to make a choice between these two. We support Lech Walesa for president and we want to ally ourselves with a pro-capitalist movement. That is why Center Accord is our obvious partner. We will not lose our identity in this alliance; in the election campaign we will be clearly seen as liberals.

[Skwiecinski] Center Accord has called for an acceleration aimed at the administration and the economy. Liberalism implies natural development and the free play of market forces.

[Tusk] I have not seen any statement by a Center Accord leader which implies that acceleration is a return to an economy under state control. Some may say this, but we see it differently. We support administrative moves which will free market mechanisms. This is different from controlling the economy. By using administrative instruments, one can create clear and logical rules for privatization and a free market. Subsequently, the state should only check to see that rules are being observed. We believe that the state should be bolder in its privatization program. In its fiscal policy it must abandon the principle of production-sector equality and create more preferences for the private sector. [passage omitted]

[Skwiecinski] In Walesa's statements and those made by Center Accord leaders, one comes across promises—not said too loudly—to improve things after they come to power. Obviously, these promises cannot be kept. Does this mean that we will be threatened by a wave of populism?

[Tusk] I would be more worried if the "Solidarity" camp and a person of Walesa's stature were to find themselves outside the structures of power. One does not need a great deal of imagination to imagine what could happen. I have not come across any political party which promises that things will get worse prior to voting day. Walesa and Center Accord have often been analyzed on the basis of what their opponents have said about them, rather than what they are saying. This is bad political tactics. I think that Center Accord will have produced its economic program before election day and this will dispel any doubts. [passage omitted]

[Skwiecinski] Often one hears opinions that our political stage is illogical. Both of the opposing camps have allies which, judging by their programs, are much closer to their counterparts on the other side of the political divide than their actual allies.

[Tusk] I want to see a strong liberal-conservative lobby in parliament. I think it is a realistic aim, despite the fact that presently a section of the liberals and especially the conservatives and Christian-Democrats are closer to the Alliance for Democracy. It is important to us to cooperate with the Forum of the Democratic Right [FPD]. We have known several FPD people for over 10 years.

I believe it lies in the national interest to elect as many pro-market deputies as possible. I will be glad if a large number of FPD candidates are elected. I think that similar feelings are present in FPD thinking about us and our participation in the election as allies of Center Accord.

The main forces which are lining up for the coming election are Center Accord and the Citizens Movement-Democratic Action. After the elections I think there will be three or four primary political forces, namely, the liberal-conservative, the national-Catholic, and the social democratic—these three derive directly from "Solidarity." The fourth force could be the peasant movement. Only then can we talk of shaping new political groupings that are based on their own programs.

Rumors of New 'Roundtable' Meetings Reported

AU1209181390 Warsaw GAZETA WYBORCZA in Polish 10 Sep 90 p 1

[Unattributed report: "A 'Roundtable' at the Primate's Residence?"]

[Text] At her press conference last Friday [7 September], Malgorzata Niezabitowska announced that there was a distinct possibility that a meeting between Mazowiecki, Walesa, Center Accord, Citizens Movement-Democratic Action [ROAD], and "other main forces" to "consider proposals on the political calendar," might take place.

Rumors are circulating in Warsaw political circles that Polish Primate Jozef Glemp has invited Prime Minister Mazowiecki, Lech Walesa, and the representatives of Center Accord and ROAD to his residence for a meeting.

Some people are saying that the meeting will take place in a week, others, that end of September seems a more likely date. There are also people who maintain that no date has yet been fixed.

ROAD's Henryk Wujec would not confirm these rumors, but he added that such a meeting could be very positive. Senators Lech and Jaroslaw Kaczynski—the latter is in the Center Accord—refused to make any comment.

Halina Bortnowska of ROAD's Coordinating Commission also stated that she did not know anything about the rumor when she was asked. However, she added that "the probability of improbable things happening in Poland had reached a critical juncture."

Mazowiecki Consults Leaders on Government Changes

LD1209093290 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2000 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Text] Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki has held consultations with chairmen of deputies floor groups—Bronislaw Geremek of the Citizens' Parliament Floor Group, Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz of the Democratic Left, Wieslawa Ziolkowska of the Polish Social-Democratic Union, Jozef Zych of the Polish Peasant Party, and Anna Dynowska of the Democratic Party—in connection with planned additions to the Council of Ministers. The premier also spoke to Senate Speaker Andrezej Stalmachowski; Deputy Speaker Jozef Slisz; Democratic Party Chairman Aleksander Mackiewicz; and NSZZS [Independent Self-Governing Trade Union] Solidarity of Private Farmers Chairman Gabriel Janowski. Consultations continue.

Sejm Reviews Schedule, Draft Legislation

LD1309034290 Warsaw PAP in English 2258 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 12—After a break in August the Lower House of the Polish Parliament started three-day debates today. Sejm Speaker Mikolaj Kozakiewicz informed deputies that Sejm meetings would be held once a week in September. The current meeting as well as the future ones will focus on legislation. The point is that the Sejm should adopt indispensable economic reform bills by the end of its term.

Today's agenda included the first reading of several draft laws.

Bill on Trade Unions

Deputy Aleksander Malachowski presented a bill on trade unions, signed by over 100 deputies of the Citizens Parliamentary Club, and stressed that this document had been inspired by the August accords. The union bill that was adopted in 1982, though based on a draft worked out the previous year, was aimed against Solidarity, in fact.

The new bill does not include any limitations concerning a right to organize trade unions with certain reservations with regard to the police and prison functionaries. For a union to be registered, it is only necessary to have statutes conforming to the law. There are no limitations as to who has a right to strike. However, one must not strike when this poses a threat to life or health.

In a discussion deputies appreciated the abandonment of restrictive provisions of the union law of 1982 but at the same time objected to some detailed solutions included in the new draft.

Also today the Sejm discussed proposals of economic changes, put forward in the draft budget, the bill on abrogation of the law on socio-economic planning and the draft law on distribution of some shares of the joint stock company called "Gdansk Shipyard" for free.

After the first reading the new bills would be sent to Sejm committees which would examine them in detail.

Interior Vice-Minister on Crime in Poland

During question time, Sejm deputies learnt that 341 murders were committed in Poland from January to July 1990 (292 in the same period last year) and the number of common crimes rose from 211,000 to about 390,000. Crime has international ties, it is linked with brutality, the use of fire-arms and modern means of communications and transport. In spite of all this, crime rate (counted per 100,000 inhabitants) is two or three times lower in Poland than in the U.S. and Western Europe.

This was reported by Interior Vice-Minister Jan Widacki who discussed the getting out of order of law's regulatory functions, the completed re-organization of the prosecution apparatus, which, together with a review of cadres, was bound to influence the effectiveness of operation. He added that the process of turning the militia into the police essentially ended, although some 20,000 posts remain vacant.

I do not promise that we will do away with crime but I assure you that we will try to limit it and put it under control. We will do our best to make our police not worse than in an average Western democratic state in the possibly short period of time, Widacki said.

The debates will be resumed at 10.30 a.m. tomorrow and Sejm committees will gather earlier to express opinion on candidates for new members of government.

Parliamentary Club Prepares for Next Sejm Session

LD1209041590 Warsaw PAP in English 2022 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 11—At today's session of the Citizens' Parliamentary Club Senate speaker Andrzej Stelmachowski suggested that the Sejm dissolve itself the day it adopts the budget for 1991. If this motion was accepted at the Sejm debates between Sept. 20 and 21, parliamentary elections might be held in February or March.

Bronislaw Geremek, the club's chairman, said that the coming Sejm debate would be one of the most important political discussions in the parliament. He supported Stelmachowski's proposal and pointed out that the Sejm of the current term should also adopt parliamentary and presidential electoral draft laws, some economic bills and a local government draft.

The Sejm debate in question is also expected to focus on the length of the presidential term. Geremek did not exclude a possibility that parliamentary and presidential elections as well as a national referendum on a new constitution may be held on the same day. However, this scenario may change, he stated.

Draft of New Presidential Electoral Law Viewed

AU1209105690 Warsaw GAZETA WYBORCZA in Polish 8-9 Sep 90 p 2

["EM"-signed report: "Draft Electoral Law"]

[Text] A proposed draft of a new law on presidential elections that was drawn up by the Citizens' Deputies Club was lodged this Friday [7 September] at the Office of the Sejm Marshal. On Saturday, the same deputies hope to deliver a draft on the proportional representation parliamentary electoral law. Both drafts could still be debated this month during the planned political debate.

President

Presidential candidates are to be proposed by political parties, movements and groups of citizens, provided that they collect 30,000 or 50,000 or 100,000 signatures (three proposed alternatives).

To win outright in the first round a candidate needs to obtain over 50 percent of the vote. If nobody obtains this, the two who have received the highest number of votes would fight it out in the second round.

The Sejm

Deputies would be elected from:

—Local lists in single-mandate localities (either 230 or 115 deputies, because the draft provides for two alternatives), by the majority vote system;

—Regional lists in multi-mandate regions (230 or 115 deputies), by a proportional voting system.

Each voter would have two votes, one for the local list and one for the regional list.

Candidates are to be put forward by political parties and movements from a given region. Some 1,000 signatures are needed for inclusion on the local list and 3,000 for inclusion on the regional list. The Sejm would divide Poland into localities and regions.

Judges would be on electoral commissions.

The Electoral Campaign

This would be open to public inspection and RZECZPOSPOLITA would publish the names of the candidates.

No campaigning is to be permitted in churches and to a certain degree in factories. Candidates would not be able to use any symbols that were linked to the Polish Republic's emblems or to religious and patriotic elements or elements that insulted religious feelings or national pride.

Who Could Not Stand for Parliament?

One cannot be a deputy at the same time as one is, for example, the premier, a government minister, ambassador, judge, prosecutor, voivode, voivodship or regional police commander, a local authority counselor, director of a foreign firm or of a firm with a majority foreign capital holding.

PAP To Publish New Weekly Bulletin on USSR

LD1309033490 Warsaw PAP in English 2223 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 12—The first issue of the new weekly bulletin "WSCHOD" (EAST) published by the Polish Press Agency appeared today as a substitution for the bulletin "SZIAZEK RADZIECKI" (SOVIET UNION). The bulletin is going to present numerous intricate political, social and economic processes taking place in the Soviet Union with special regard to Russia, the Ukraine, Lithuania and Belorussia.

Apart from excerpts from the Soviet press, "WSCHOD" will also carry an elaborate selection of Western Sovietologist studies, information on aims and programmes of Soviet informal organizations and reports on the life of Poles in the USSR.

Jaruzelski Receives Japanese Youth Delegation

LD1209174590 Warsaw PAP in English 1452 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 12—President Wojciech Jaruzelski received a group of 25 young Japanese who are ending their two-week visit to Poland. They were guests of the Polish Government.

The president was interested in the young people's impressions from their Polish visit and expressed conviction that direct contacts between young Poles and Japanese will be conducive to better mutual understanding between Poland and Japan, the two traditionally befriended nations.

The contacts are sure to result in various ventures aimed at the deepening of cooperation between Poland and Japan, the president said.

NATO's Woerner Meets Leaders, Addresses Sejm

LD1409035190 Warsaw PAP in English 2355 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 13—NATO Secretary General Manfred Woerner came on an official visit here today. This is the first trip by such a high level representative of the NATO alliance to Poland. It is at the same time a return visit of Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski's trip to the NATO headquarters.

On the first day of his four-day visit to Poland, Manfred Woerner met with Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki to discuss questions implied by the notion of a "new European architecture," issues of security on the European continent and changes taking place both in Poland and other countries of Central and East Europe.

Manfred Woerner had eye-to-eye talks with Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski at the Foreign Ministry. Both politicians reviewed Poland's cooperation with NATO, contacts of NATO states with Warsaw Treaty states. Minister Skubiszewski presented the main elements of Poland's European policy.

Plenary talks of NATO delegations and representatives of the Polish Foreign Ministry were held parallel to the Woerner-Skubiszewski talks. During the talks, the Polish side highly sized up NATO's stabilizational role in Europe, agreeing also to political goals of this organization.

Participants in the talks exchanged reports and proposals on various forms of contacts with NATO and its members and discussed a proposal, presented by NATO at its London summit, of a declaration of states of NATO and the Warsaw Treaty on the renunciation of force.

In the evening, Manfred Woerner addressed the Sejm and the Senate committees for foreign affairs and defence. Present were Sejm and Senate speakers Mikolaj Kozakiewicz and Andrzej Stelmachowski as well as government members.

NATO Secretary General Manfred Woerner said, among other things:

"I have come to Warsaw today with the same message that I took to Moscow in July and to Prague last week, for it is a message that is addressed to all nations whose former regimes were our adversaries but whose peoples and their now democratic governments we see as future partners. We extend the hand of friendship to you. We wish to cooperate with you. The time of confrontation is over. The hostility and mistrust of the past must be buried. We need to work together. Only in this way can we build the common European home or the European confederation or the new European order, call it what you will. We all know what we mean: a Europe of democracy, human rights and partnership in which the whole sustains the parts and the parts sustain the whole.

"We need to look afresh at our objectives and tasks. This our Atlantic Alliance has done, and will continue to do so. For our alliance has a new, even more valuable role to play as a supporting pillar of a new and peaceful order of cooperation in Europe.

"Our aim is a Europe in which military aggression or threat becomes materially impossible and politically meaningless. To this end, NATO will maintain a mix of conventional and nuclear forces in Europe as the ultimate guarantee of peace. Yet our goal is clear: to reduce military forces in Europe to a minimum so that no nation needs to threaten others to feel secure itself.

"A conventional arms control agreement is the key that will unlock the syndrome of confrontation among the old adversaries of the two alliances. Thus it is the indispensable first step in building a Europe whole and free, which is why I am counting on the Polish Government to do all it can to help us conclude this treaty now. This agreement will lay the basis of cooperation and mutual reassurance that will enable us to create an enduring peace in Europe. It is the secure foundation on which the new European order must be built if it is to last.

"The NATO summit in London set forth our ideas for the building of the CSCE to bring all of Europe closer together in new or expanded structures of cooperation. The Polish Government has also been active in this field. Our alliance has noted with interest the idea of a Council for European Cooperation which Mr. Mazowiecki set out in his speech to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg. In the weeks that remain before the CSCE summit, we will work hard together to formulate a common, coherent concept for the future of the CSCE.

"The CSCE can certainly enhance security. But it cannot substitute for the Atlantic Alliance. It does not have the means to take sanctions or ensure their implementation. CSCE will live up to its promise only if it is complementary to a strong Atlantic Alliance on which it can rely.

"So the existence of a strong and coherent new atlantic alliance is in the interest of Poland as much as of any other European nation. It provides stability for change and maintains the transatlantic link with the United States and Canada. This is indispensable for peace, and the freedom and security of the whole of Europe," said the Secretary General of NATO, Mr. Manfred Woerner, while addressing the Polish Sejm today.

U.S. Deputy Energy Secretary on Working Visit

LD1209041190 Warsaw PAP in English 2040 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 11—Minister for the Protection of Environment, Natural Resources and Forestry Bronislaw Kaminski met here today with U.S. Deputy Secretary of Energy Richard Gentile.

During the meeting, [both] sides agreed that the U.S. Department of Energy will support activities of the Polish effective energy centre which is to be organized in the Silesia industrial region in cooperation with the Polish Ministry for the Protection of Environment, Natural Resources and Forestry.

Satisfaction Noted With Two-Plus-Four Treaty

LD1309130690 Hamburg DPA in German 1127 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw (DPA)—The Polish Government is completely satisfied with the Moscow treaty on Germany. Foreign Ministry spokesman Wladyslaw Klaczynski told DPA in Warsaw today that the result confirms everything which Poland campaigned for during the two-plus-four talks. At the same time, there is satisfaction in Poland that the unification process, which Warsaw fully supported from the very beginning, is proceeding normally and that compromises have been found that do not hamper unification.

They now expect that the border treaty, in accordance with the Paris agreements, will be signed as quickly as possible. Then the desired treaty on mutual relations should follow as quickly as possible.

Spokesman on Alleged Violation of Embargo on Iraq

Oil Contract Denied

AU1309140290 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1300 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Romania has again denied the signing of an oil contract with Iraq. This piece of news—spread by some Western news agencies and newspapers—about alleged Romanian violation of the embargo against Iraq, is totally unfounded, said Foreign Ministry spokesman Ambassador Traian Chebeleu at his press conference today. He said that Romania will continue to apply the UN trade embargo against Iraq and reiterated Romania's principled and loyal attitude toward the UN Security Council resolutions.

Referring to Iraq's decision to close down the embassies in Kuwait, the spokesman said that Romania closed down its embassy in Kuwait because of mobility and supply difficulties. From a legal viewpoint, the Romanian Embassy in Kuwait continues to exist and the departure of the embassy personnel does not affect, in any way, the diplomatic relations between Romania and Kuwait. The activity of Romania's embassy will be resumed when normal living and working conditions will be restored.

Regarding the situation of the Romanian citizens in Iraq, he pointed out that 2,325 out of the 3,055 people present in Iraq at the start of the Gulf crisis have returned home, while the rest will be repatriated later.

Plans To Violate Embargo Denied

AU1309201090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1849 GMT 13 Sep 90

["Statements-Interviews: Mr. Traian Chebeleu's Press Conference"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/9/1990—Thursday, during his weekly press conference, the Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman, Ambassador Traian Chebeleu, firmly denied the assertions of certain Western mass media according to which Romania would violate the embargo set by the U.N. Security Council against Iraq, making new business with that country in the field of oil supplies. All those news items, he said, specify as their single source a document of the U.S. State Department, the nature of which is not identified. The State Department did not inform us about the existence of such a document as it would have been normal in the case in which such a document would have really existed, much more so as we have had many contacts both in Bucharest and in Washington on questions concerning the Gulf crisis, the Romanian ambassador stated. He also specified that the U.S. State Department did not seek clarification or explanation on a diplomatic level either. On September 12, Mr. Chebeleu said, the U.S. Embassy in Bucharest answered our questions that they had not been informed about anything like that and they pledged to ask Washington. But we have not received any answer until now.

In that context, Traian Chebeleu voiced his regret over the fact that the U.S. State Department had not helped Romania in its efforts to remove that ambiguity which leads to its persistency.

The spokesman also stated that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs decided for humanitarian reasons to call to the country the staff of the Romanian Embassy in Kuwait following the worsening living and working conditions there which endanger the Romanian diplomats' health, although our country's government had initially decided to keep the embassy staff on. That measure, he specified, does not alter the Romanian Government's principled stand. Romania's Embassy in Kuwait continues to exist from a legal point of view. The departure of the Romanian Embassy staff does not influence the continuity of the diplomatic relations with the State of Kuwait. The Romanian Embassy's activity will be resumed as soon as its staff's adequate living and working conditions are in place.

In connection with the Romanian citizens now in Iraq, the spokesman informed that out of 3,055 persons present in that country before the Gulf conflict 2,325 persons returned to Romania until September 12. The rest of the Romanian personnel is to come home as soon as they finish their work there.

During the press conference Mr. Chebeleu made reference to and welcomed a "reasonable, responsible" statement made in Hungary: According to a news item broadcast by Radio Budapest on September 11 Mr. Gyula Horn, chairman of the Foreign Policy Commission in that country's parliament, appreciated that "a genuinely democratic Europe would include Romania and Czechoslovakia—alongside Hungary—as members in the Council of Europe in Strasbourg".

Displeasure With Media Expressed

AU1309210390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2033 GMT 13 Sep 90

["Foreign Ministry Press Release"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/9/1990—"I must take up at today's meeting a subject that I thought was clear and closed for good by the three official communiques issued by the Foreign Affairs Ministry on 7 and 11 September on Romania's alleged violations of the embargo decided by the U.N. Security Council against Iraq" said Ambassador Traian Chebeleu, Foreign Ministry spokesman at Thursday's press conference.

Notwithstanding our clear statements and denials, a cascade of news items was published on 12 September by newspapers [THE] NEW YORK TIMES, THE WASHINGTON POST, LE FIGARO, LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS, by AGENCE FRANCE PRESS, ASSOCIATED

PRESS and other agencies, by certain television stations, which re-affirm that Romania and Cuba would have made new oil deals with Iraq in violation of the embargo. All those new items refer to Romania's strong denial of the accusations, yet all resume the false information of Romania's breaking the embargo. All news items referred to a certain U.S. State Department document the nature of which is not identified or confirmed by the U.S.

Trying to motivate the causes of this distortion, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said: We do not doubt that there were cases in which Romania's principled stand on the Gulf crisis that broke out on 2 August was hardly a cause for pleasure. Or the fact that Romania which in August held the chairmanship of the U.N. Security Council had made a contribution, acknowledged in many capitals of the world, to the unanimous or utmost support for its resolutions to show the wide disapproval of the international community of a blatant act of violation of the principles of the U.N. Charter. And probably there was displeasure of the unequivocal decision of the Romanian Government to set measures for a strict observance of the embargo decided by the Security Council under Romanian chairmanship, in spite of its very high costs for the Romanian economy: Its losses through the embargo are put at about three billion U.S. dollars. The Romanian Government has accepted to this economic "sacrifice" not for political gains, but to uphold the principles of inter-state relations written down in the U.N. Charter.

The Romanian Government must make efforts to deny these allegations and regrets that the State Department has not been helpful by denying in its turn that a document of the kind referred to by certain mass media exists. By not doing it, it helps the persistence of ambiguity.

The coincidences appear to us strange, the press release says, reminding of the BBC episode on the alleged Bucharest images of what actually happened at Sofia. Investigations so far have shown that the AP news item disseminating the false information about Romania concerning the embargo against Iraq is signed by a one George Gedda as "ASSOCIATED PRESS writer". We will continue our investigations and consider very seriously what measures we can take including action in court to get reparations for the tremendous political prejudice that false information about Romania brings to Romania and the Romanian people, the press release winds up.

U.S. Denial of Romanian Embargo Violation Noted

AU1409104890 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1000 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Excerpts] [Announcer] The State Department yesterday denied allegations that the United States believed Romania was importing Iraqi oil in violation of the UN trade embargo against Iraq. [passage omitted]

Here is the reaction of the Romania's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to this denial, as presented to our radio station this afternoon by the ministry's spokesman Mr. Ambassador Traian Chebeleu.

[Begin Chebeleu recording] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs took note with satisfaction of the statement made by the U.S. State Department spokesman [words indistinct], who said, I quote: There is no truth to reports that the State Department believes Romania is importing Iraqi oil or otherwise violates the embargo. In fact, Romania has been a strong supporter of the sanctions from the beginning and has played a very positive role on many issued related to the Gulf crisis, end quote. [end recording]

[Announcer] The Foreign Ministry's contacts with the U.S. Embassy in Bucharest were most useful for the clarification of false news disseminated in connection with the alleged violation by Romania of the embargo mandated by the Security Council. Of course, it is regrettable that prestigious mass information media are relaying uncorroborated news reports which can seriously damage Romania's foreign relations, particularly when they refer to top issues on the political-diplomatic agenda of the international community. During his news conference in Bucharest, the Foreign Ministry spokesman emphasized that Romania has had and continues to have an irreproachable attitude concerning the implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions on the Gulf crisis.

U.S. Foundation, Church Officials Visit

AU1209195290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1824 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 12/9/1990—Mr. Arthur Schneier, president of the "Appeal for Consciousness" Foundation, has started a visit to Romania on Wednesday. In a statement to a "ROMPRES" writer upon arrival at the Otopeni Airport, the guest said he had come to Romania to find out about the role religious denominations could play in the transition period when they could assume more missions, showing tolerance and understanding. He said that in consideration of the interests Jews throughout the world take in the Jewish community in Romania the organization of a conference of European Rabbis in Bucharest had been highly significant. He also hailed chief Rabbi Moses Rosen for having done his utmost for the organization of that conference in Bucharest.

Mr. Schneier also said he had come to Romania to get to know realities for himself as he distrusted the image the press gives of this country.

Reverend Leonid Kishkofsky, president of National Churches of the USA, arrived in Bucharest the same day. His schedule coincides with Mr. Arthur Schneier's.

New York Chief Rabbi Meets Iliescu

AU1309190590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1707 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/9/1990—Thursday morning, President Iliescu met Arthur Schneier, New York's chief rabbi, president of the "Appeal for Conscience" foundation.

Attending was Mr. Moses Rosen, chief rabbi of Romania.

They approached aspects of the democratization of the social, political and economic life of Romania. Emphasis was placed on the actions taken to guarantee the rights of the national minorities, their access to the political life, their representation to the legislative body of the country, irrespective of membership and reference was made to the good relations with the Jewish Community in Romania. Mr. Arthur Schneier was particularly appreciative of President Iliescu's statement after his meeting with the Presidium of the European Rabbinical Conference in which he expressed a clear stand against antisemitism and any forms of extremism in Romania.

They also tackled aspects of the international situation, Romania's position in relation to the Gulf crisis and its contribution to the proceedings of the Security Council. Once again, President Iliescu stressed Romania's principled position on the Gulf events, in keeping with the norms of international law, the consistence with which the Romanian authorities have abided by the measures adopted in the Security Council.

Chief Rabbi Received by Roman, Nastase

AU1309204590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1857 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/9/1990—Romanian Prime Minister Petre Roman received, Thursday, Mr. Arthur Schneier, president of the "Appeal for Conscience" Foundation, an ecumenical organization affiliating representatives of various religious denominations in the United States.

The same day, the visitor was received by Foreign Minister Adrian Nastase.

During the meetings, the guest exchanged views with his Romanian hosts on the changes in Romania after the December 1989 revolution. The president of the "Appeal for Conscience" Foundation was appreciative of the democratization process in Romania and of this country's position as to certain international issues, especially the Gulf crisis.

Present at the interviews was Mr. Moses Rosen, chief rabbi of the Mosaic Cult in Romania.

Minister Meets Netherlands Agricultural Official

AU1309175690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1617 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/9/1990—Ion Tipu, minister of agriculture and food, and other executives in that ministry met with J.H. Groeneveld, executive in the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Environment of the Netherlands and experts of 30 companies in that country as part of the proceedings of the Joint Romanian-the Netherlands Group in Agriculture.

Ways to develop close technical and economic cooperation and actions to technologically reequip agricultural and food industry sectors according to high efficiency criteria were looked into.

Foreign Minister Nastase Receives Balkan Delegates

AU1309190390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1730 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/9/1990—The works in plenum of the meeting of high-ranking officials in the foreign ministries of the Balkan countries Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Yugoslavia, Turkey and Romania continued in Bucharest on Thursday morning behind closed doors. The leaders of a number of the delegations made addresses.

In the afternoon, working groups debated the drafts of the final documents of the meeting.

The same day, Mr. Adrian Nastase, minister of foreign affairs of Romania, received the chief delegates.

Romanian Group in Interparliamentary Union Meets

AU1309095090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0904 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 13/9/1990—The Steering Committee of the Romanian Group in the Interparliamentary Union held its first meeting on September 12, chaired by Senator Viorel Faur, president of the group.

A report was made on that occasion about the implementation of the decisions made by the joint session of the Senate and the Deputies' Assembly concerning the foreign activities of the Romanian Group in the Interparliamentary Union and about the creation on a mutual basis of parliamentary groups of friendship with parliaments of other countries. The meeting further discussed about Romania's participation in the eighty-fourth conference of the Interparliamentary Union that will take place in Uruguay, over October 15-20.

During the talks, senators and deputies expressed their regret that no member of the Romanian Parliament had been invited to attend the foreign policy colloquium on Europe on its way to democracy, to be soon held in Strasbourg, although it is well-known that the Romanian

Parliament is striving to find the best solutions to establish a true democracy in Romania.

* Romanian Appeal Condemns Vienna Award

90BA0295A Bucharest AZI in Romanian 26 Aug 90 p 3

[Unattributed article: "Appeal to the Country on the 50th Anniversary of the Fascist-Horthyst Vienna Diktat"]

[Text] Romanians: With heavy hearts, on 30 August 1990 the entire nation will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the criminal Fascist-Horthyst Vienna Diktat, an odious act under which the two dictators of the world, Hitler and Mussolini, awarded the northwest part of Romania to revisionist Hungary. In the same tragic year of 1940, the year in which Greater Romania was mutilated, Bessarabia, northern Bukovina, and Southern Dobruja were also wrested away from our country, the victims of the same policy of force and dictatorship, whereby all the norms of justice and international law and respect for historical truth were violated.

In Transylvania—the ethnogenetic home of the Romanians—this savage act unleashed a wave of terror, cruelty, tears, and blood for the millions of peaceful inhabitants of this ancestral Romanian region. Thousands upon thousands of people died in terrible agony; the bellies of pregnant women were split open with bayonets; orthodox priests were crucified against church altars and doors; an impressive number of our conationals were chased away from their homes while others were thrown into forced labor and death camps and any form of national life ceased to exist. At the same time, in consensus with the Horthyst-Fascist ferociousness, hundreds of thousands of innocent Jews and other minorities were deported to extermination camps, where they met with a tragic end. Transylvania, the sacred cradle of our people, was thrown back 1,000 years to the time of darkness and savagery of the Asian invasions and became the stage of an unprecedented genocide. All these massacres, hard to imagine in the civilized Europe of the mid-20th century, chalked up to fascist Hungary one of the most shameful pages of the world holocaust and the martyr towns of Ip, Traznea, Sarmas, Moisei, etc., took their place at the bloody table of silence next to Auschwitz, Birkenau, and Maidanek.

Romanians! Today, half a century after that genocide, the revanchist forces that are troubling the world with the mad dream of Millenary Hungary are once again brandishing the Transylvanian problem. In view of Romania's current situation, the attempts of Hungarian revisionists inside and outside the country constitute a profoundly hostile act against Romania, to which we must resolutely respond. Day after day Romanians are being humiliated in their own home; children and teachers are chased out of schools; churches are set on fire, and our national monuments are desecrated; the Hungarian language press and television in Romania are carrying out an antistate policy, inflaming people and blackmailing the democratically elected authorities. Everything is proceeding according to scenarios designed to bring about an explosion in Transylvania for the purpose of internationalizing the problem and thus having an opportunity to bring foreign troops into Romania. History taught us that the Hungarian extremists never accepted the idea of not invading foreign territories, regardless of the pacifying declarations made by various people. The revisionist Hungarian forces have only one purpose: to seize Transylvania by whatever means. Every day we receive increasingly alarming news about the intention of Hungarian chauvinists to irresponsibly and unilaterally proclaim the autonomy of the Covasna and Harghita Counties, something that will seriously violate our territorial sovereignty and integrity, and will incur dramatic consequences. We Romanians want peace and harmony with all the minorities with whom God fated us to live together in this blessed land. Our entire historical existence bears testimony to the fact that we always showed tolerance and Christian humanism, we never oppressed and never will oppress anyone and we never invaded and never will invade any foreign territory. The Romanians always showed a pacifist and creative spirit of good understanding at the meeting point between the East and the West. But we will not allow anyone to keep us on our knees in our own home in the name of so-called democracy or to practice genuine apartheid against our children; we will not leave the country at the mercy of foreign espionage agencies; we will not allow the mountains, forests, and resources of the fatherland to be wrested away nor will we allow attacks on our sacred ideals of freedom, unity, and independence. We love Europe and we love the values of humanity but we cannot tolerate what some people are attempting to do to Romania!

Romanians! In the light of these truths, we call upon you to commemorate this day of national mourning in peaceful and orderly manner. This dramatic anniversary bears a dual significance, as an opportunity to both remember with reverence the victims of the 1940-44 genocide, and to tighten our ranks in complete unity around the tricolor flag, so that such crimes against the Romanian people can never again be perpetrated.

It is up to us to ensure that this day, marked with black letters on the callendars of our hearts and in the history of our nation, become a white landmark along the path of national sovereignty and development. We appeal to all those who harbor Romanian feelings not to respond to any provocation and to mark this day by work and spiritual introspection, remembering that God protects the good and pure of soul.

We want to ask you that on 30 August at 1200 noon all the bells of churches and monasteries throughout the country be rung in unison for 10 minutes. At the same time, we find it proper that religious servants officiate a Te-Deum and other memorial services at the Bucharest Patriarchate, the Iasi Metropolitan Church, the Reunification Cathedral in Alba Iulia, and other churches. At the same time, processions should be organized and wreaths laid at the graves of our national heroes. We also suggest to the Ministry of National Defense that 21 artillery salvoes be fired at the same hour in Bucharest, Cluj, and Iasi. We hope that the sirens of all the plants and all sea and river ships will be sounded as a mark of solidarity with the past and present passions of Transylvania. We also want to appeal to the government and the other legal authorities to permit optimal conditions for all the manifestations dedicated to this painful commemoration.

Romanian brothers, on the stormy sea of this end of the century and the millenium, the only salvation of our people is to work in dignity and unity. Consequently, let us unite in mind and feelings and have strong faith in the destiny of the Romanian nation and in the justice of our cause! May the nefarious spirit of the Fascist-Horthyst Vienna Diktat committed 50 years ago, and of the other dictates that led to the mutilation of our country be forever replaced by the glorious spirit of brotherhood and love among all the loyal citizens of Romania that reigned at Alba Iulia in 1918, when we achieved the Great and Eternal Unification!

Long live the Romanian people!

Long Live Greater Romania!

The Romanian Hearth Union
The League of Victims of Horthyst Terror
  in Northwest Transylvania
The Association of Refugees
  of Northwest Transylvania
The Association of Reserve and
  Retired Army Officers of Bucharest
The Center-Left (Social-Democratic) Alliance
The Romanian Cultural-Artistic Association
The Greater Romania Foundation

Bucharest, 21 August 1990

* Persistant Hungarian Nationalism Deplored

90BAA0295B Bucharest TINERETUL LIBER in Romanian 26 Aug 90 pp 1, 2

[Article by Ioan Gavra: "Lies or Political Infantilism?"]

[Text] It was not by chance that I brought up these kinds of issues, because they affect other countries, too. The most eloquent example is Slovakia, where the political scenarios are alsmot identical to those used in Transylvania. Needless to say, the minority in question is once again the Hungarian, or more precisely, its extremist wing, which has begun to worry the Slovak public. It began with some amazement after which fear and actual tension began to plague people. If you recall, this is about how events proceeded in Transylvania, too, except that there the pressure brought to bear on the majority population at one point degenerated into very tragic ethnical conflicts. In fact, the threats have not yet subsided, especially in the Covasna and Harghita Counties, where anti-Romanian manifestations are mounting to a peak.

The most outrageous thing is that parliamentary decisions, i.e., the laws of the country, concerning the formation of local authorities, are ignored in this geographical region of Romania. The Parliament may have decided one thing, but the government was going to do something else! It seems that regional autonomy is becoming a social reality there, just as envisaged in the political program of the UDMR [Democratic Union of Romanian Magyars]. What can we say, our numerous national minority, instead of cultivating its language and culture, is engaging in politics more intensively than any government party in the world. Are we expected to come to the conclusion that here and there NSF [National Salvation Front] means the same as UDMR [not further expanded], since the prefects of Covasna and Harghita are Hungarians? Is this what Romania's "original democracy" means? The Romanians in those areas protested in their own way but nobody paid much attention to them. What a great pity that they don't enjoy greater moral credit than that in their own country. The question is, what is there left for them to do?

As we understand it, there have also been threats proferred to the government by local UDMR branches. So willy-nilly, we once again violate the law and keep the Parliament at a distance. This is an older mentality that seems to be once again hovering over the corridors of executive power. But should the need arise, the Parliament will be blamed, because so far that is the "custom" of the house. The same "peaceful methods" were used to oust Romanian students and teachers from schools in counties Covasna, Harghita, Mures, Bihor, and Cluj, where schools have been "separated," technical cadres have been removed from economic units not to mention the fact that many Romanian families have unconditionally left the area.

Well, who can fight a raging hurricane if no one in this country sees or hears the cry of pain of those chased from their ancestral land? How long will this situation continue because the Romanians of Transylvania have already lived through such experiences in 1940? The difference is that at that time it was because of the implementation of a Diktat, while the means employed now are somewhat more "democratic:" intimidation, pressure, threats, and slander. Let others feel comfortable because the Romanian people still have a lot to suffer (much as it was thought in the past)! In a day or two the Romanians living in the other Transylvanian counties can expect similar "democratic decisions," and so "Pro Panonia" is fulfilling the dream of restoring Greater Hungary.

Luckily, the Slovaks woke up faster than we did and took things more seriously than others are doing. When are we going to be able to say the truth about Transylvania, so that the world will understand what we think, because so far it has been "obligated" to hear only the false information transmitted almost exclusively via Hungary. I think that the time has come for us to show our clean face to the world since we have more than enough arguments in our favor.

Coming back to the reality of facts, here is another example of ideological poisoning found in the text of a document with international circulation. You must have heard of the existence of an "International Transylvania Committee" (God, but they have begun to proliferate terribly lately), whose official representative is Mrs. Eva Maria Barki. She respresents the ethnic Hungarian clubs of Transylvania in this so-called "international" body. How many of them there may be is not exactly known but you can consult the UDMR for any additional information!

Of course, we have the original text of the document as such, so we can proceed to "decypher" it. The first chapter contains a "rigorous" presentation of the general situation in Romania. After the elections, of course. It is not worth burdening your memory with speculations and nonsense meant only for propaganda purposes. You must have heard enough about Pastor Laszlo Tokes and the UDMR (some of you must have also seen him in action), and recently you must have heard about the other anomalies from the local and international mass media. Nevertheless, it is worthwhile dwelling on a few passages which, with your permission, we view as more significant from this viewpoint. Let us begin with a specification included, of course, in the text of the document: "The UDMR and the Magyar Ethnic Group have been subjected to intensive intimidation, electoral manipulation, and harassment." Our consternation is almost complete, so ridiculuous and bizarre is this statement. Without insisting any longer on this detail, we have to say that propaganda lies do not last long and that sooner or later they tend to turn against those who practice them with such condescension and "impartiality." Further in the text we learn that "...we cannot ignore the nationalistic policy of the Front, which is undoubtedly one reason for its growing popularity, nor the fact that the National Peasant Party and the Liberal Party have adopted a nationalistic line."

It's almost comical! The authors of the text can still not manage to distinguish between nationalism and chauvinism. Anyway, natinalism does not by far explain the popularity of the Front. If that had been the situation, the Front would have won far greater support in Transylvania. However, as you know, the reality was different. Along the same line, the statement that the Liberal Party (to use the terminology of the document) adopted a nationalistic line is more than unspeakable. Since more than 70 percent of the Romanian citizens of Hungarian nationality voted for the chairman of that party, that must say something about his orientation. Or do you want to make us believe that the Magyar Ethnic Group of Romania sided with Romanian nationalism, as you call it without too many scruples? Consequently, you seem to be talking nonsense, gentlemen, and it's a pity for the waste of time. And to end the "exhibition" of your ineptitudes translated into the language of Schiller and Goethe (the original text was drafted in German), let us cite a downright shocking statement: "...It was no coincidence that the revolution (of course, the Romanian revolution) broke out in the multinational city of Timisoara." So, in the final analysis, this is where you actually wanted to get all along. One more "leap" of the imagination, as you have been doing lately, and you may finally win Transylvania over to the side of Hungarian irredentism. Except that you still have a long road to travel before that.

Senate, Deputies Assembly Convene 12-13 Sep

Senate Discusses Law, Trade Bills

AU1209193590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1805 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 12/9/1990—In its Wednesday morning session the Senate concluded debates on the bill on the Administrative Law Department. Following the debates by articles, which were attended by Justice Minister Victor Babiuc as government representative, the Senate adopted the bill with a few amendments.

The first half of the session dealt with the questions the senators sent to ministries and the government.

In the afternoon, the Senate discussed the bill on the Commercial Register, which the government suggested. After the memorandum was read by the government representative and after reports were read by the Senate specialized commissions, which endorsed the draft law with a number of proposals and remarks, general and by-item debates started. Twenty-two out of the 49 articles of the bill were voted.

Commercial Bill, Holidays Debated

AU1309194590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1727 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/9/1990—September 13, the Firemen's Day, was marked by Romania's Senate during its Thursday session when Senator Gheorghe Dumitrascu and Mihai Iacobescu made addresses highlighting the firemen's heroism and sacrifices in the 1848 revolution.

Answering an older question, Colonel-General Victor Stanculescu, minister of national defense, gave statistical data on the veterans of the two world wars and referred to steps to morally and materially rehabilitate them.

The debates proper continued with an analysis of the last two chapters in the bill on the commercial register, which was adopted with one abstention.

At the end of the Thursday session, Senate Vice-President Vasalie Mois submitted two proposals, made by Senator Viorel Faur, for approval. They refer to the calling of the Constituent Assembly on November 2, to mark 50 years since the death of great scholar and politician Nicolae Iorga, and the organization of a festive meeting in Alba Iulia on December 1, the national day of Romania. The two proposals were endorsed and the Senate authorized its Standing Bureau to contact the similar body of the Assembly of Deputies so that they may agree on the organization of the two events.

Deputies Endorse Bill on Companies

AU1209193390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1815 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 12/9/1990—Wednesday afternoon the Assembly of Deputies met in plenum.

The debates, carried in a working atmosphere, resulted in endorsement of the first five chapters of the bill on commercial companies. Prior to this, most of the amendments suggested by the deputies were validated, while many others, proposed by the economic commission of the assembly, were scrutinized and most of them approved.

Deputies Discuss Commerce, June Events

AU1309094490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0918 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 13/9/1990—The proceedings in plenum of the Assembly of Deputies continued in the morning of September 13.

Today's agenda includes further debates by items of the bill of commercial societies. The second part of the meeting will be devoted to accounts on activities of the parliamentary commission of investigation of the June 13-15 events.

Deputies Debate Economic Bills

AU1309204290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2017 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/9/1990—The proceedings in plenum of the second session of the current legislature of the Assembly of Deputies continued on Thursday.

The debates and adoption by articles of the bill of commercial societies continued in the first part of the day. With the amendments proposed by the deputies and those proposed by the Assembly's Economic Commission, 208 articles of the bill have been validated until now, the remaining 15 articles in the last chapter comprising final and transitory dispositions are to be discussed in the first meeting in plenum next week.

The deputies were presented also on Thursday a report of the parliamentary commission inquiring into the June 13-15 events, a document read by Mr. Neculae Radu, chairman of the commission.

The speaker of the Assembly of Deputies, Mr. Dan Martian, informed the meeting that deputies Dorin Sarafoleanu, Georgeta Valentina Pale and Dumitru Surdu had sent in their written resignation to the Permanent Bureau of the Assembly of Deputies. The plenum of the deputies was invited to acknowledge the fact, to state as vacant those seats in the Assembly while the Credentials Commission should discuss filling in the vacancies with the runners-up in the election.

The speaker of the Assembly of Deputies proposed and the deputies agreed that taking into consideration the shortages of foodstuffs and consumer goods in commercial units they should ask the government, in the name of the Assembly of Deputies and of the Senate, to make an information paper on that issue.

The proceedings of the session will be resumed by commissions Monday [17 September] at noon.

Roman Chairs 13 Sep Meeting

AU1309204390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1859 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/9/1990—Thursday afternoon the Romanian Government, presided over by Premier Petre Roman, analysed the main economic and social indicators and the foreign trade activity over the January first - August 31, in order to establish the measures for an improvement of activitids in September and the last quarter of the year questions were also discussed regarding the wholesale price reform price liberalization, materials requirements, the setting up of a state orders system, as well as guidelines for a draft national economy plan for 1991, to meet the requirements of the quick implementation of market mechanisms in Romania.

On the executive's agenda there were also bills and decisions previously distributed to government members for observations and suggestions.

Commission Continues Investigation of June Unrest

AU1409110190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0916 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 14/9/1990—Over 300 persons from Bucharest and the provinces reported to give evidence, data and information, and other 74 of the persons that incurred damage, filed intimations and complaints, shows the communique of the parliamentary commission of inquiry set up to investigate the June 13-15, 1990 events, presented to the parliament by deputy Radu Nicolae.

The commission avails now of a sizable amount of evidence: declarations, letters, memoirs, official documents, medical records, statistical data, photos, expertise reports, audiovisual recordings, the communique shows.

Analyzing the current stage of the investigations, the commission however finds that they should be furthered.

The commission, the communique shows, is aware of its great responsibility to the Romanian people who impatiently waits for the conclusions of the inquiry, as well as the interest shown by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the European Council in this report.

Under the circumstances, the commission of inquiry declares that it is ready to draw up the final report the soonest, but only when it is fully satisfied the truth is found out and when it is able to establish the responsibilities of all natural persons, organizations and institutions involved.

Witnesses Deny Vlad Ordered Firing on Crowd

AU1209190690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English
1830 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 12/9/1990—One of the witnesses heard on the third day of the trial against retired General Iulian Vlad, head of the former State Security Department, said the persons killed on December 23 and 24, 1989 inside the former Central Committee of the RCP [Romanian Communist Party] had not been the victims of terrorists. They were killed accidentally as "many untrained young people received arms" and Dumitru Mazilu "took command of operations and gave orders to shoot at anything that moved."

Another witness, a stenographer who attended the December 17 meeting of the former Executive Political Committee, said that during that meeting Generals Iulian Vlad and Vasile Milea, as well as Tudor Postelnicu had been threatened with dismissal and sending before a platoon for having failed to obey the orders previously given by the dictator whereby the demonstration in Timisoara was to be repressed by force. As for the execution of the orders issued during that very meeting, the witnesses heard on Wednesday said that Tudor Postelnicu alone had promised to fulfil them, while Generals Milea and Vlad had declined such commitments.

Another stenographer, who attended the same meeting and who had been cited as a witness, said that then Ceausescu had urged his acolytes to fight to the end, some of them had stood up and vowed to fight on, others had said nothing and defendant Vlad had exclaimed "The hell we will."

According to witness testimony, the defendant did not convey the order to shoot at the demonstrators. Two of the witnesses said General Vlad had expressly asked them to refrain to shoot at the demonstrators. Had there been such an order the Palace Square would have turned into a true Tianamen, one of them said.

The trial will resume on Thursday, when another ten witnesses—former high communist officials among them—will be heard.

More Testimonies Heard

AU1309190990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English
1700 GMT 13 Sep 90

["Justice—Iulian Vlad's Trial"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/9/1990—The Supreme Court of Justice, the Military Section continued to hear other prosecution witnesses in the trial against retired General Iulian Vlad, former State Security Department chief, who is charged with complicity in genocide. Called to the bar were ex-General Ghita Grigorie, former commander of Securitate troops, Iosif Szasz, former member of the Executive Political Committee, and Tudor Postelnicu, former interior minister.

The testimony of the first two showed that the defendant, who did not oppose Nicolae Ceausescu's order to shoot at the demonstrators directly, prevented the application of that order by his action and ordered that force should not be used against the population. Ghita Grigorie said he had reported to General Vlad on the course of events and that the latter had repeatedly asked him not to shoot.

In his turn, Iosif Szasz said that during the December 17 session of the Executive Political Committee the defendant had not directly expressed agreement to Ceausescu's order that force should be resorted to in Timisoara.

According to Postenicu's statement, however, General Vlad had nuancedly said that "tasks will be fulfilled."

* Roman's TV Interview Hailed as Pragmatic

90BA0291E Bucharest AZI in Romanian
24 Aug 90 pp 1, 3

[Article by Octavian Stireanu]

[Text]

From Meritocracy to Technocracy

The implacable pressure of reality is imparting a resolute orientation to the social and professional area toward which the responsibility for the fate of the country will be increasingly directed from now on; this is neither the area of professional meeting attendees, nor of neodissidents, nor of racketeers—whether petty ones or the ones who made it big—nor of scriveners frozen in some project eternally hidden in imaginary drawers, nor of barricade builders lost in the dizzying corridors of power, nor of functionaries for years glued to seats from which they expect to climb down directly into retirement. It is clear that Romania can be rejuvenated only by people with calculated and intelligent courage, with an open mind, and with competence—and these are the people who have taken it upon themselves to do so.

The prime minister and his governmental team have substantially raised the level of ideas and even of the vocabulary. And it is no one's fault if, "frozen in our project" as we are, we failed to read even the bill on turning state enterprises into autonomous businesses or commercial societies; if we didn't notice that having commercial space leased out (by barricade-raising mayors too late ousted from their seats) is no "privatization," but a gesture that will be reexamined in the light of the above laws; if we didn't find out that there can be privatization only after the adoption of two other important laws concerning enterprises and commercial associations; if we don't realize that the electoral promises for a slow transition to a market economy are being fulfilled to the letter, because "hastening the reform would deepen the crisis," and so forth.

A new language is being introduced in our economic life, and in order to participate in the economy or even understand it, we must learn this language. This is the language of the 40-year olds' generation, a generation dominated by positivism and pragmatism, and by the sciences and their implications in the social domains, because that was the primary structure of their education.

Lack of access to this new mode of viewing things explains the phenomenon of obstructionist directors—because they know that they cannot be managers, if they even know what a manager is; it explains the "third echelon" state functionaries hanging on to their respectable position in hope of a pension, who don't care much about changing the ledgers they have manipulated their entire lives, not always in the interests of the society. Even the racketeers are "understandable" in their pettiness but remedies against them have already begun to appear, and so forth.

If we agree that everyone is easy to understand then we should also make an effort to understand those who are conducting the complex mechanism of the economy because they are coming up with the most ideas in the least space, with less rhetorics but more profound thought, and are all the more inflexible in what they mean to do as they know that ignorance has never been known to do anyone any good.

Mr. Petre Roman's interview also showed the conceptual loftiness of a synthesizing view of the economy, as well as the depth of a pragmatic attitude toward the details of reality. Anyone who cannot comprehend the magnitude of this issue can always take refuge in silence. Or ignorance. Except that ignorance can only engender false ideas. Some are already around, hovering around two opposite poles—only two, as if to demonstrate that truth lies at... the center.

Under the Sign of the Rose

The Roman cabinet is suspected of "deviation to the right," namely—as we were able to better understand from the interview—of neglecting social protection within the reform, and of the state's too abrupt withdrawal from supporting enterprises. In the first case, certain newspapers carried information about "lines of credit" and foreign capital without having the least idea of what it was all about. The same newspapers plead for closing down unprofitable plants, but they don't know that the work force is already regrouping. They feed trade unionist noises, without paying attention to the rationale—weak as it is—of these generalized demands. Public statements by Mr. Adrian Severin, minister secretary of state, about the positive implications of the new laws—which created new jobs—are not heeded at all, while the "too-rapid-privatization" slogan is being shouted even before any stock has been issued to anyone, etc.

Since the beginning of the year it has been said about the state's involvement in the "supplier-consumer" chain (for a hypercentralized economy) that the list of products pursued under balance sheet will be drastically reduced, and ever since then the enterprises have been insistently demanding freedom to sign their own contracts with suppliers. That list was reduced, but Infratirea of Brasov, for example, goes out to stadium meetings to once again request state protection against suppliers who fail to deliver, while the suppliers in their turn...

The government is also the butt of accusations from the opposite pole, who whispers hints of a "deviation to the left" because the reform is not implemented quickly enough and there is too much status quo in the organization of the economy! etc.

The first accusation ("deviation to the right") doesn't stand up if we recall what was said in the electoral platform about the two conflictual tendencies of the transition period: the state levers will be gradually removed as the reform registers progress; or if we read the new bill which clearly expresses the relationship between the state, on the one hand, and autonomous enterprises or commercial associations on the other.

The second accusation ("deviation to the left") will collapse as soon as the "analysts" realize that speeding up the reform will deepen the crisis on another plane and implicitely the precarious situation of the population.

These two opposite categories of accusations either cancel each other out, or form a vicious cricle; in both cases, the program of the Roman cabinet goes directly to the heart of the matter, superimposing itself over the electoral program publicized under the sign of the rose. This is not a mere matter of consistency but of political loyalty to the electorate, once again reaffirmed by the prime minister and effectively demonstrated in practice by the series of governmental decisions and legislative initiatives promoted by the government.

Lack of understanding for this consistency is caused by a primary reality: People are not working!

Trivialization as Proof of Superiority

In phrasing his answer to the question "Why are people not working?," Prime Minister Petre Roman demonstrated the professional (managerial, so to speak) superiority of the entire cabinet team, pointing only to the body of objective causes: the continued existence in the economy of an obsolete organizational framework in which the enterprises cannot yet be truly autonomous, and the fact that they cannot be autonomous because a new legislation cannot be written at the wave of a hand. (As was the case under the dictatorship, when the legislative outgrowth was so thick that it was impossible to control, when laws and decrees poured out in cascades literally at the wave of a hand!) The laws of economic rejuvenation must be well thought out, and we have well trained people for such a responsibility. "Nevertheless, it's already been two months!" Mr. Roman exclaimed at one point.

Thus, the economic recovery is an objective task the government assumed by mapping out a legislation capable of combining the rigor of state economic levers with the free movement of economic factors. This "dual direction" will bring the economy to the expected production index. As for the rest—we didn't hear a word about incompetent directors who installed themselves in the revolution, or about the epidemic of trade unions that are demanding everything under the sun, except for two things: That people work and not steal.

With an elegance that in fact symbolizes the moral behavior of a genuine statesman, the prime minister skimmed over the real causes of the fact that people are not working; he did not point a finger at them, but chalked the generalized absenteeism permeating the entire economy up to the fact that the legislation has not yet been finalized.

As in the relation to their own jobs, equally embarrassing is the absence of any gesture even vaguely made by the trade unions about the equally generalized stealing that is taking place under the very noses of the embattled trade unionists who continue to want everything—except work and honesty.

We are waiting for the trade unions to "clean up their act" and attain the same level of respectability as the trade unions in the market economies that we view as a model; we hope they will provide a model from this viewpoint, too.

The Immediate Reality and Deep Nature

The strong inertia of an instinct cultivated for over two decades makes us shift any responsibility or accusation toward the top, toward the leadership. We are familiar with the insulting slogans and rhyming lines composed in University Square. But this entrenched psychosis does not prevent us from seeing the pole in our own eyes: People are stealing! Racketeering is rampant! The majority of the enterprises are governed by the rule of generalized burglary.

"The government must take measures," shout honest people but especially those who hope for precisely the reverse, namely that the government, will not take "measures."

We understood a good deal from one of the prime minister's sentences about this situation of general stealing: "The government must govern!" We hope he will do so not only regarding the major problems of this country's economy—as he is doing—but also regarding the thieves! Even at the risk of having a new category of neopostrevolutionary dissidents appear, or having the various trade unions of the "workshops of democracy" rush to defend various human rights (like slandering, stealing, insulting, and lying), the thieves—whatever their caliber—should go where they belong, and the sooner the better.

Nevertheless, these daily problems do have a perennial element: human nature.

Other civilized countries (the northern ones, for example) found the remedy against theft and dishonesty scores, maybe hundreds of years ago, and injected honesty and correctness in the genetic makeup of their people, which is transmittable from one generation to the next.

In our country, the black tide of human nature is in full process of expansion. Will the government manage to stem it by itself? In the past few days special commissions were established to detect apparently illicit removal of material from enterprises and to block the channelsthrough which industrial consumer goods are being stolen. Will these commissions suffice? Will they have help? Or will they, once again, violate "human rights" (the right to steal, etc., etc.)?

The Centrifugal Effect

Mr. Petre Roman's televised interview confirmed if that were still necessary: the realism, seriousness, and pragmatism of the governmental team. The problems that confront them are so important that the young team of the Roman cabinet is of itself rising above any dispute or squabbling of the kind that delights the yellow press. One needs competence to understand these problems; therefore, seriousness and character are beginning to be measured according to the strict gauge of skill. Other than that, any commentary is, as we used to say at the university, "missing the subject by a mile."

What is noteworthy is not the ineptitude of the so-called nonparliamentary opposition—once again, "frozen in its projects" to stick its nose everywhere—to perceive the social aspect of the reform. What is noteworthy is only the government's absence of resentment about opinions that "miss the subject by a mile." The seriousness of the socioeconomic problems inevitably places such "manufactured" commentaries on centrifugal orbits that are anyway peripheral to the real nucleus on which the vital efforts are focused to relaunch the country's economy.

Equally noteworthy is this consistency of the governmental team, which has started on its way conscious of the enormous risks that it has assumed and that it is endeavoring to systematically eliminate with a superiority stemming from realism, reason, and competence. The chill of these extremely delicate "surgical operations" is having the inevitable centrifugal effect on the "corridor" discussions because in those areas far removed from the subject, the only possibility is to talk without knowing what one is talking about.

Silviu Brucan Interviewed on Current Situation

AU1309181590

[Editorial Report] Bucharest Romanian Television Network in Romanian at 2030 GMT on 5 September 1990, "Guest of the Week," carries a 45-minute recording of an interview with Professor Silviu Brucan by Emanuel Valeriu. Throughout his interview, Brucan emphasizes his full commitment to privatization and private economy oriented toward the West. He believes that the Romanian economy is doomed to failure unless it is helped by Western economies. He rejects partial measures, and stands for complete privatization and market economy. He repeatedly emphasizes that Romania's status in Europe has to be changed and that the government's test of fire is the democratization and privatization process.

Asked by Valeriu what he thinks about the situation in Romania, Brucan says that the most urgent and important problems must be given priority, and that a government program without the cooperation of central enterprises is doomed to failure. He expresses concern about the fact that nothing is being done to meet the Western countries half way, and emphasizes that action has to be taken in Bucharest, not abroad.

In connection with Valeriu's question about his own contacts of late, Brucan says that he met with ambassadors and opposition leaders and concluded that action has to be taken on two levels: democratization and economic reform, especially privatization. In this context he stresses that "there are doubts in the West, and also in our country" regarding these two processes. He says that Romania is in a worse state than Albania.

After citing Bulgaria and Hungary as an example—where opposition leaders hold the position of president—he says that "our leaders are running in circles," they refuse to begin "serious dialogue with the opposition" and do nothing to "change our status of being penalized by Europe." Asked by Valeriu whether a similar situation can occur in Romania and whether he would define the word "opposition," Brucan points out that "serious political parties" are those which are represented in parliament, because "they have passed the test of fire," whereas parties which did not make it into parliament can be dismissed as insignificant.

Asked what he thinks about street pressure, he says that contacts and dialogue are necessary.

Asked by Valeriu what he thinks about the "vacuum around Iliescu" after his own retirement from political life, Brucan does not answer directly; instead, he comes up with some proposals. He says that a greater opening toward the opposition is needed and that Prime Minister Roman should discuss with the opposition this particular period in European history. He says that "personal ambitions" should be dropped, because the Romanians will not forgive leaders who will not forget personal ambitions and will not heed national interests. In this connection he stresses that "the government has not passed this test of fire."

In connection with the privatization process, he says that impediments in this process are greater than achievements. He criticizes some ministry dispositions such as restrictions on profits, which do not encourage private initiative, but profiteering, and such as a maximum number of 20 employees "which kills business." In this context, he gives the GDR as an example, where, in 1982, firm laws ensured proper supplies for both the private and state sectors, and where private companies were allowed to employ up to 100 people.

After criticizing the hotel and restaurant system at the Black Sea, he is asked what he has to say about the expression of "Brucan earthquake" and about his referring to "those clever guys in parliament," including the opposition, who do not do their duty. To this, Brucan says: "Shall I talk in positive terms about what is wrong?" He then continues by explaining that he criticizes in the hope that wrong attitudes will change.

Returning to Romania's status in Europe, he says that if the September EEC meeting will not cancel "the penalty against Romania" and if this penalty continues, then someone has to be called to account.

In connection with Romanian leaders, he says that he views Anton Vatasescu, minister of state in charge of industrial and trade activities, as a very capable person whom he likes as a level-headed realist. His view on Iliescu and Roman is that "they are honest people of good will who are facing two problems: democratization and passing to the market economy," none of which can be "learned from economic books." In this connection, he explains that he gained his knowledge about how the market economy and a democratic government function during his stay in the United States as a diplomat. He emphasizes that Iliescu and Roman have not had this experience and that "what is more serious, they do not even want to learn."

Asked by Valeriu whether he has left the National Salvation Front [FSN], whether the FSN is a party or a movement, and what is happening with the FSN, Brucan says that he was a member of the FSN, but resigned—although his colleagues wanted him to stay—because "he was systematically left out of the decisionmaking process." After mentioning that people do not like to hear criticism, which is very bad especially with politicians, because mistakes are not eliminated or prevented, he criticizes opportunists and leaders who like to be surrounded by yes-men and sychophants.

In connection with party factions, he says that factions are seriously discussed in the U.S. Constitution and that the most powerful parties are those permitting factions. In this sense, he gives the Japanese Liberal Party, the Italian Christian Democratic Party, and the French Socialist Party as examples. He continues by saying that "factions have three advantages:

—"They create a dynamic internal political party life;

—"They ensure internal party democracy;

—"They permit the assertion of a great number of political leaders."

Brucan then asks Valeriu to name a few young people who have been able to assert themselves within the FSN. In response, Valeriu cites the young wing of the National Liberal Party to which Brucan counters that the historical parties do not permit factions either and that is why they split. In this context he also mentions that "many left the FSN" and contacted him because they were very disappointed with the Front.

Brucan then criticizes the secrecy that surrounds the leadership mechanism of the FSN, which, he says, has become "a simple instrument of power." He points out that his proposal was to "make the National Salvation Front a dynamic and active" organization. He says that he feels responsible for "the current status of the FSN" that he is being contacted by people complaining about it, because "it has lost any idealism and political dynamism."

Asked in conclusion by Valeriu why he thinks he has the right to come up with proposals and criticize people like he does, Brucan says that he has been quite outspoken, because that is the thing to do in a democracy.

Iliescu Receives Parliamentary Deputy Ion Ratiu

AU1309185590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1740 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/9/1990—Romania's President Ion Iliescu received deputy Ion Ratiu on Thursday.

Questions specific to the transition period were approached like the deepening of the democratic process and the transition to a market economy, special attention being paid to the package of laws now under discussion in parliament.

Iliescu Meets 'Bratianu' Liberal Union Delegation

AU1309201290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1745 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/9/1990—Thursday, President Iliescu met with a delegation of "Bratianu" Liberal Union, headed by its president, Mr. I. I. Bratianu.

The two sides tackled internal political, economic and social problems. The delegates showed that their political organization, while militating for a democratic society based on a stable market economy, places the country's major interests above party conjectural interests and is ready to back initiatives of the president, the government and of the opposition when they are in tune with the ideals promoted by the union.

Mr. Ion I. Bratianu asked President Iliescu to support the recently re-established "Bratianu" foundation regain the importance it once played in the country's cultural, historical and social life.

On the ampler plane of human rights, the delegation brought up the issue of the treatment, legal and humanitarian assistance granted to detainees and expressed concern over proportions of emigration.

Royal Princesses Meet Romanian Academy Chairman

AU0809175290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1836 GMT 8 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 8/9/1990—The president of the Romanian Academy, Mr. academician Mihai Draganescu, received Their Highnesses, Princesses Margareta and Sofia, now on a visit to Romania, who expressed their wish to support the Romanian science and culture according to their possibilities.

* Public Prosecutor Upholds Law, Shuns Politics

90BA0291A Bucharest TINERETUL LIBER in Romanian 24 Aug 90 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Prosecutor General Gheorghe Robu by Horia Alexandrescu; place and date not given]

[Text] [Alexandrescu] Mr. Prosecutor General, recently you have been the target of virulent attacks. Why do you remain silent? Are the accusations justified?!

[Robu] Not in the least and I am willing to provide any clarifications, although as it happens on Friday (today) I convened a press conference to which I invited all the newspapers, precisely in order to end all this slander.

[Alexandrescu] Why did Mr. Mirescu actually leave the Prosecutor's Office?

[Robu] He was released from his position on 6 June this year after a meeting of the Prosecutor's Collegium determined that as a prosecutor he committed serious abuses that made him unfit for such a position. Among other things, he made a judicial error in the case of Gheorghe Samoilescu, who was sentenced to 25 years imprisonment for manslaughter. However, the real culprit was discovered after the trial and in fact he was sentenced to death. Because of the incorrect and abusive manner in which the investigation was carried out, Samoilescu's parents committed suicide—one by hanging and the other by electrocution. Nevertheless, it was not the case as such—bad as it was—that determined the collegium to make its decision but the fact that former Prosecutor Mirescu deliberately failed to include some 45 documents and over 200 witness statements in the file, which should have been considered at the trial! I must also add that this was not the former prosecutor's only irregularity; he was responsible for a long series of other abuses for which it had been suggested that he be ousted several years ago; personally, I don't know why that suggestion was not acted upon.

[Alexandrescu] That was one thing, but what about the fact that you did not appear before the PNUC [Provisional National Unity Council], as it is being affirmed?

[Robu] I hope you're joking! I have personally reported before the PNUC at least five times and once I presented a full report on the activities of the General Prosecutor's Office before the PNUC Executive Committee. So, as you see, that is an utterly gratuitous statement!

[Alexandrescu] Nevertheless, how do you explain another departure from the Prosecutor's Office, namely that of Prosecutor Gheorghe Iancu, who was also a trade union leader?

[Robu] Please have a look at document number 10 of 4 July. You'll note that it was an office transfer, initiated in Parliament, whereby Mr. Iancu was transferred to that body in an advisory capacity. In other words, the prosecutor was promoted; he applied for a transfer, which was approved!

[Alexandrescu] Mr. Prosecutor General, so far you have solid arguments but what about the accusations concerning your private life?

[Robu] All calumnies and I am willing to respond to each one of them with specific data and written documents which I intend to do at the press conference. Until then, however, I will give you another concrete example: It has been said that I was caught in flagrante committing adultery, on which occasion I reportedly ran through the streets of Severin... totally naked! Actually, I lived in Severin in 1968, and the episode attributed to me happened in 1957 and involved a former prosecutor, Emil Mancas, at a time when I was a student in Cluj. There are, of course, documents from that time attesting to the facts. As for the rest, I can tell you that all the accusations are tailored on the same false and slanderous pattern and that I have consequently lodged a penal complaint with the responsible bodies. Which are not under my jurisdiction!

[Alexandrescu] One more question, then we'll go on to other topics: What can you tell us about the claims made concerning your competence and that of the other officers of the Prosecutor's Office?

[Robu] Those claims, too, are subjective, denigrating, and slanderous. As far as I am concerned, although for many years I was directly involved in investigations, I never had a judicial error, such as acquittal of defendants. As for my aides, I have no reason to doubt their professional capabilities; moreover, it must be remembered that they were appointed by decree! Anyway, if we are to explicitely refer to Military Prosecutors Mugurel Florescu, Vasile Stanea, and Ioan Dan, as well as many civilian prosecutors, it must be noted that they were directly involved in the success of the Revolution and actually exposed themselves to bullets; it should be interesting to find out where their slanderer was during those hot days!

[Alexandrescu] Mr. Prosecutor General, it has been claimed that some members of the Ceausescu clan were unjustly arrested by the prosecutor general and then released by the courts. What happened there?

[Robu] That's another absurd claim! In reality, as everyone knows, all members of the dictator's family were seized by the masses of revolutionaries already in December, and by the time I was appointed—9 January—they were already in custody! As for the releases, that was a court decision but penal investigations continue and that cannot be interpreted as meaning that the persons in question are innocent. In point of fact, if the Prosecutor's Office illegally extended the detention of some citizens, that will be investigated and measures will be taken accordingly. What surprised me, however, although it shouldn't anymore, is that, aside from the defense lawyers who are doing their job, we see all kinds of other people playing attorney and anticipating court decisions in spite of all evidence, in an attempt to influence both public opinion and the court. They must have their own reasons for regretting the passing of the Ceausescu regime!

[Alexandrescu] Nevertheless, what about the people arrested in June and the fact that the General Prosecutor's Office insistently asked the government for measures to restore public order?

[Robu] The Prosecutor's Office had both a right and an obligation to demand such measures because by statute the Prosecutor's Office is responsible for defending the law. At the same time, our intervention must not be confused with a political demarche or as applying only to illegal demonstrations.

[Alexandrescu] How many people are under arrest and on what actual grounds?

[Robu] In a few days, perhaps on Friday, we will complete a first indictment writ concerning 29 defendants who will be sent to court for disorderly behavior, breaking into public institutions, and destruction of public property; 15 of these 29 had no occupation and six had police records. Another 134 are being held for questioning, of whom 51 are without an occupation, 25 have police records, and 44 have been released.

[Alexandrescu] Mr. Prosecutor General, the people are still waiting to see in the defendant's box the terrorists who shot at the revolutionaries in December. Who were they, where are they, and when will they be tried?

[Robu] Come to the press conference and we'll discuss those questions, too, about the people arrested during the Revolution then released, about the resumed investigation of countless cases, and about the trials that will begin soon!

Roman, Ursu Attend Fireman's Day Ceremony

AU1309181390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1611 GMT 13 Sep 90

["Pro Patria—Unveiling the Firemen's Memorial"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/9/1990—A ceremony to mark "Firemen's Day" was held in Bucharest on September 13, when a memorial erected in 1901 to the firemen who fought to the bitter end in 1848 to safeguard Romania's independence was unveiled. The monument had been dismounted in 1984 on orders by the two former dictators.

The ceremony was attended by Mr. Petre Roman, prime minister, Mr. Doru Viorel Ursu, minister of the interior, Mr. Victor Stanculescu, minister of national defense, other officials, generals and senior officers, numerous Bucharesters.

In his address during the ceremony, Mr. Stefan Ciurel, Bucharest's mayor-general, said inter alia: "The Firemen's Memorial, a work of art belonging to our spiritual heritage, a true symbol of the Romania soldiers' bravery and of the 1848 revolution, is once again placed on its original site on September 13, the Firemen's Day, which is celebrated this year in a free and dignified Romania, in light of the changes we owe to the December revolution."

To the sound of the national anthem, the Romanian Prime Minister unveiled the memorial which was draped in Romania's state flag, the flag of the firemen's company in Bucharest, offered by ruler Alexandru Ioan Cuza, and a flag dating to 1886 that belongs to firemen in the commune of Bosanci, Suceava County.

Floral wreaths were laid on behalf of the Romanian Premier and Government, of the Ministry of the Interior, of the National Salvation Front, of the Veteran Firemen's Organization, of the Mayor's Office of Bucharest City and of numerous Bucharest institutions and enterprises.

A religious service was also held when the memorial was sanctified.

Attacks on Intelligence Service Multiply

AU1309130790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1014 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 13/9/1990—The Romanian Intelligence Service [RIS] shows in a release published in daily ROMANIA LIBERA that attacks on that institution have multiplied lately, through the publication of coverages that try to slander it and render impossible its activity which is placed exclusively at the service of the consolidation of the process of democratization of the Romanian society, and facilitate the interference in the country's internal affairs, thus preventing the defence of the citizens' fundamental rights and freedoms.

Firmly rejecting "the so-called truths which are circulated by publications like EXPRES, ROMANIA LIBERA, ZIG-ZAG and other ones," the Romanian Intelligence Service assesses in its release that "the way how the respective publications act is an abdication from the principles of correct information of readers."

"Considering that the circulation of false information, rumors and misinformation, or the disclosure of legally protected data, as well as the insults and calumnies circulated by certain Romanian publications are not only incompatible with the freedom of the press, but account also for offences sanctioned by the Penal Code," the release shows, "the RIS reserves the right to protect its interests by legal means."

Journalists' Assocation Elects Steering Board

AU1209110090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0944 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 12/9/1990—On Monday, September 10, the Romanian Journalists' Association Council elected its Steering Board including Vartan Arachelian, Petre Mihai Bacanu, Cornel Nistorescu, Sorin Rosca-Stanescu and Stelian Tanase.

It was decided that the five members would head in turn the Association Council.

The composition of the nine working commissions was equally established.

Daily Protests Actions Against Local TV Station

AU1209162290 Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian 7 Sep 90 p 2

[G. Lazar note: "Television Again in the Limelight"]

[Text] There is a local television station in Oradea; a station whose activity was halted several months ago, and with difficulty received permission to function again. The station is broadcasting during the night—between 0200 and 0500—and, in spite of the late hours, it is followed with great interest because it deals mostly with local issues. Last week the prefecture asked on the phone that the broadcast be interrupted, an act which was followed by the appearance of a commission which included the prefect, the deputy prefect, the prosecutor, and the head of the police, who threatened that if the station refuses to halt its broadcasts, the prefect's office would set up another television station to counterbalance their broadcast and compete with the television broadcast of the Oradea residents, which is not exactly "in line" with requirements.

Thus, one can see that, as far as television is concerned—even a local one—if one really has a will, one can achieve something.

On the same subject, the Suceava television station, which was set up with great efforts by a group of enthusiastic young people, has not received permission to operate, on the grounds that the studio is located in a dangerous area—close to the great neighbor in the east and more—which could disturb the conscience of the peaceful Moldavians, who, not such a long time ago, with great enthusiasm voted in favor of their peace.

The editors of the DREPTATEA newspaper protest against such arbitrariness, which flagrantly violates the freedom of speech and are supporting these people with all their might.

25 Machine-Building Enterprises Go on Strike

AU1309181490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1704 GMT 13 Sep 90

["Social Life—Unlimited General Strike"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/9/1990—Twenty-five machine-building enterprises whose unions are affiliated to the "Infratirea" federation went on an unlimited general strike on September 13. The strike was announced on September 6 at the Federation's extraordinary conference, in a press communique that accuses the members of the government commission, who went to Brasov on September 5 for talks, of having been unable to "present in a clear, written form the concrete measures the government did or will initiate to solve the problems in the protocol."

Mr. Nicolae Preda, leader of "Infratirea", stated that "the decision of the extraordinary conference holds because the reasons behind it were not eliminated after the prime minister's visit to Brasov either."

Over 100,000 Workers Involved

AU1309183090 Paris AFP in English 1736 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, Sept 13 (AFP)—More than 100,000 engineering workers in 25 different establishments in Romania went on strike Thursday [13 September] in response to a call by the Infratirea trade union federation, its organisers said. Some local union leaders said the strike was unlimited, while others said it was for the day only.

At Bacau in the northeast of the country, 3,000 workers said they were staying on strike until their demands were met. But at the Autobuzul works in Bucharest, the local Infratirea official said its 5,800 employees would not pursue their action. "We want to sound a warning" and "show our solidarity", Mihai Vinturache said. In other factories, workers were to decide at mass meetings Friday whether or not to go on with the strike.

The strike underlines the determination of the Infratirea federation to press its demands, after more than three weeks of calling on the government to give "clear and written responses". In addition to wanting a uniform national pay scale for workers with the same qualifications, the federation has more general social and economic policy demands. It is complaining of the difficult situation of businesses lacking essential raw material supplies and of a population suffering food shortages.

Infratirea claims to be present in 45 workplaces and to have 160,000 members.

The first workers to go on strike in the present conflict were those of the Tractorul plant in Brasov, but they did not strike Thursday, their local leaders saying that wages had already been hit too hard by their strike of August 27-29.

Prime Minister Petre Roman went to Brasov to meet the strikers on September 7, but they complained that he had been "evasive" with them and had demanded "clear and written responses" from the government to their claims by September 13. Mr. Roman told them that the government sought to provide the "legal framework allowing enterprises to assure more efficient production and sales". He said that "salary increases in the present period are only possible if enterprises make profits".

Union sources later Thursday said the government had given assurances that the problems of raw material supplies "would be resolved by the state", while saying the question of wages would be settled "globally".

Infratirea leader Nicolae Preda said the government replied in a telex message that it would "continue to provide raw materials according to available resources and in a selective manner" this year and next. The government said also that it wanted to see "internal resources and those coming from imports used reasonably". Regarding salaries, the government had assured the federation that these would be "dealt with globally by new employment legislation".

But Mr. Preda said he felt the workers' demands had been misunderstood. They were not asking for wage increases, but for salaries to be uniform for workers employed in the same field, he said. Some workers had already received increases and they wanted these to be extended to others at national level.

The federation's "leadership council" is to meet Friday to consider its next move.

Economic Effects of Spinta Road Block Noted

*AU1309175290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English
1606 GMT 13 Sep 90*

["Economy—What Is the Cost of the 'Blockade' at Sapinta"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/9/1990—The No.19 national road linking the counties of Maramures and Satu Mare, respectively, the towns of Sighetul Marmatiei, Satu Mare and Negresti-Oas, is still blocked at Sapinta, which seriously affects the national economy and the people's interests. Economic units in the area complained to state and justice bodies for having suffered more than four million lei worth of damage. According to the data supplied to a ROMPRES correspondent by local authorities only the officially registered loss has been reported so far. Other economic units in the neighboring counties of Satu Mare and Bihor and in other areas have been adversely affected by the "blockade" at Sapinta. According to estimations, the road block at Sapinta triggers about 72 thousand lei worth of damage daily, to which the damage done to the people, to the residents of neighboring villages ?n the first place is added.

August Balance Sheet of Industry, Import-Exports

*AU1309130190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English
1007 GMT 13 Sep 90*

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 13/9/1990—The national statistics commission reports results for August 1990 as against August 1989 as follows: Industrial commodity output and labour productivity in national industry, seventy-seven percent; investments, fifty-two percent; export by clearing in roubles, forty-five percent and export in free currency, fifty-six percent. Imports in free currency are thirty-six percent and retail sales nine percent higher than in August last year.

In industry the output of certain products, especially foodstuff, was higher than in August last year. In power engineering the output of net coal, electric power, in particular that delivered by coal-burning power stations, the output of crude and natural gas is below last year's level. The same is true for some important materials as steel, rolled steel, coke, etc. And most of industrially processed products.

An important increase as against last year was recorded with retail sales through both state and cooperative network, not only in August but over the first eight months of 1990, by nine and sixteen percent respectively.

Considerable quantities of foodstuff, including raw sugar, coffee beans and butter, were imported over the whole period to improve domestic supply.

In foreign trade, although export is higher than in July by thirteen million roubles and thirty-four million dollars, imports exceeded exports by 130 million roubles in clearing and eighty-five million dollars for free-currency transactions. That was due to low export level—about half of last year's figure.

Two Albanians Killed During Podujevo Police Raid

LD1309135290 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] I mentioned at the beginning of the daily news that the repression against the Albanians in Kosovo resulted today in several deaths in the Podujevo municipality. We have just received a report from Pristina, from our Kosovo correspondent, Badzet Bariliju:

[Bariliju] Police raids, officially justified as weapons searches, on Kosovo villages continued today. Following raids on [names of villages indistinct] in the Podujevo municipality, this morning at 0400 a strong police force encircled [name indistinct] also in the Podujevo municipality. Eyewitnesses with whom journalists managed to talk, since they were not allowed to visit these villages, claim that the policemen were raiding houses and, using a megaphone, called on villagers who were left in the village to come out of their homes, which they did. The ensuing exchange of fire, regarding which there is no official information as to who and what started it, and resulted in several people being wounded and two being killed, according to unconfirmed reports.

Following the police raid, some time around the noon, the policemen who deployed armoured vehicles, helicopters, and [words indistinct] left the village. According to eyewitnesses, 30 villagers were detained. The reasons for the detention of so many people, who like all other inhabitants of this village are Albanians, is not yet known. Bearing in mind the scale of the operation and its consequences, it is to be expected that the Secretariat for Internal Affairs will issue an official statement.

This action, like the previous ones, caused further anxiety among the Albanians in Kosovo and further afield. The police behavior toward villagers, irrespective of whether or not the police had proof of their guilt and reasons to disturb them, further deepens the anxiety among the Albanians.

Two Soldiers Injured

AU1309134990 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1312 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Milivoje Mihajlovic report]

[Text] The news of the adoption of the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo has rather eclipsed the unrest that occurred near Podujevo this morning. As eyewitnesses claim, there was an armed clash this morning between the militia and groups of armed Albanians, between the Podujevo villages of (?Platane) and Repa. It was announced that the command of the special units of the Serbian Internal Secretariat will issue a statement on this event today.

According to unofficial reports, two locals were killed and two militiamen wounded in the shooting, one of them seriously. The militia has detained a number of criminals and confiscated a certain amount of arms and ammunition.

It is claimed that armed Albanians tried to prevent actions of the militia, who were searching for smuggled weapons.

2 Albanians Killed, Policeman Hurt in New Clash

LD1409093390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0907 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Pristina, 14 Sep (TANJUG)—Two people of Albanian nationality were killed and a policeman was seriously injured during last night's clashes on the Pristina-Klina road when a police patrol tried to stop a vehicle for a routine check.

As learned from reliable sources, people from the vehicle opened fire and seriously wounded a policeman. The other policeman returned fire and killed two attackers. An official statement will be issued soon.

Further on Draft Kosovo Constitution Provisions

LD1309131790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1157 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Pristina, 13 Sep (TANJUG)—[passage omitted] In addition to promulgating the new constitution, the former Kosovo Assembly delegates also "proclaimed" the law allowing citizens to organize themselves into political parties. They also adopted an electoral law and "gave their consent" to the constitutional amendments to the SFRY Constitution.

It is said in the explanation of the "constitution of the Republic of Kosovo" that the constitution was drawn up "with a view to the future organization of Yugoslavia as a confederation." It is specified in Article 1 of the constitution that "the Republic of Kosovo is a democratic state of the Albanian people and of the members of other nations and national minorities who are its citizens: Serbs, Muslims, Montenegrins, Croats, Turks, Romanies, and others living in Kosovo."

The act then puts special emphasis on the territory of "the Repubic of Kosovo" and its state sovereignty. It proclaims Albanian and its script the official language and script. "On territories where members of other nationalities also live, Serbo-Croat and Turkish and their scripts are in official and equal use, in line with the law."

The creators of this act have written: "The Republic of Kosovo" has its (?own) flag, emblem, and anthem. Other nations and national minorities have the right, as written, to use their symbols in keeping with the law. According to the creators of the act, the (?Presidency), headed by the president and the government with its ministries are taking over the functions of the collective head of "state."

A special "resolution" explains that "these decisions, made by legitimate representatives of the sovereign people of Kosovo," are endorsed in line with the stances of the SFRY Presidency publicly adopted in the course of the talks on the future order in Yugoslavia. The talks were held only in the republics, because "the unconstitutional measures of the Socialist Republic of Serbia excluded the people of Kosovo, and especially Albanians, from the talks." For this reason, its status can be resolved, it is added, "through the formation of its sovereign state..."

Finally, it is expected that the federal units in Yugoslavia, as stated in "the resolution," will recognize "The sovereign Republic of Kosovo as an equal member of [words indistinct]." The creators of "this new state" expect support from [word indistinct] states of Europe.

These papers and "documents" end with: "Kosovo, 7 September [passage indistinct] TANJUG, Prinstina desk. Ilijaz Namajli, who until the dissolution of the Kosovo Assembly held the post of [word indistinct], was in charge of the endorsement of the act.

Serbia: Document of 'No Legal Value'

LD1309170190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1415 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Belgrade, 13 Sep (TANJUG)—The Serbian Executive Council today reached the conclusion that the so-called "constitution of the Republic of Kosovo", various declarations, and other documents illegally adopted by a group of separatist delegates from Kosovo have no legal value or legitimacy. The communique from today's session of the Executive Council reads:

"In connection with the news that a group of Albanian delegates from the Kosovo Assembly—whose functions ceased on 5 July this year—adopted a so-called "constitution of the Republic of Kosovo" at a meeting held illegally in Kosovo, the Serbian Executive Council states the following:

The latest step by the separatist movement in Kosovo comes at a time when it should be clear to everyone that this is a movement directly and exclusively targeted at breaking up the territorial integrity of Serbia and Yugoslavia, and not a movement which aims at protecting human rights.

No amount of deception about an alleged lack of readiness on the part of Serbia to respond to its obligations with regard to respecting the human rights of all its citizens could conceal the essence of the activity which is banned, and which is not tolerated anywhere in the modern world. The proclamation of alleged declarations on the breaking up of the territory and on the creation of some other "confederative" or alienated units is contrary to the CSCE documents. These documents clearly and unambiguously state that it is the duty of national minorities to be loyal to and respectful of the territorial integrity of the country in which they live.

It is quite clear that the so-called "constitution", various declarations, and other documents illegally adopted by a group of separatist delegates from Kosovo have no legal value or legitimacy.

Pointing out that Serbia guarantees all rights to all its citizens, the Executive Council once again addresses all Albanians in Kosovo, warning them not to be misled by the ambitions of the separatist group and its leader, and even by its more or less disguized collaborators.

LDK's National Registration, Future Goals Viewed

AU1409074290 Skopje VLAKA E VELLAZERIMIT in Albanian 9 Sep 90 pp 1, 4

[Emin Azemi, Blerim Reka report: "Waiting for Free Elections"]

[Excerpts] Pristina, 8 Sep—Telegrams of congratulation have been sent to the Kosovo Democratic Alliance [LDK] from all over Kosovo in recent days. They express joy that Kosovo with its own party, the largest in Yugoslavia, has finally been accepted as a partner in future Yugoslav-level parliamentary debate. The LDK organized another regular news conference yesterday about this and other matters.

The hall of the Kosovo Writers Association was too small to hold all the journalists interested in yesterday's regular LDK news conference. There was a reason for this, because the public had been informed a few days before about the LDK's registration as a political party with the Federal Secretariat for Justice and Administration. As Professor Dr. Fehmi Agani, member of the LDK Presidium, said on this occasion, the legalization of this party has been welcomed and has found a positive echo throughout Kosovo and further afield. This, he said, has created all the legal preconditions for legal activity, for equal participation in multiparty elections, and for publishing and information activity. It is planned to issue a weekly newspaper, and, if RILINDJA fails to appear, a daily LDK newspaper.

Answering a journalist's question about the LDK's chances in the multiparty elections for the federal parliament, Fehmi Agani said that it is clear that we will not take part in the multiparty elections for the Serbian parliament, while our participation in the elections for the Kosovo Assembly is at present still not certain. Meanwhile, he added, we reckon that our chances for election to the multiparty Yugoslav Parliament are very good, and we expect success in this.

Three public communiques were issued to journalists at this news conference, two by the LDK on the current political situation and the problems of education in Kosovo, and one by the Pristina Council for the Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms. Journalists were also told about the appeal of the Kosovo Tradesmen's Association to the Federal Executive Council over the repressive measures against tradesmen who did not work on the day of the general strike.

Dialogue—Only Among Equals

In his comments on the current political situation, Fehmi Agani again protested against the emergency and special measures, the suspension of the work of the Kosovo Assembly and the Kosovo Executive Council, the closure of RILINDJA and Pristina Radio and Television, the mass dismissals from work, and the imprisonment and maltreatment of innocent citizens which, he said, are assuming the character of genocide. Agani criticized as unconvincing the offers of dialogue by Stanko Radmilovic, president of the republican Executive Council, because according to Serbian policy they imply dialogue about how to accept hegemony and not a dialogue of equals. He vigorously denounced the new wave of political violence in Kosovo and the continued detention of Hajrulla Gorani and other trade union leaders, and he thanked Dr. Slobodan Lang, who sought by means of his hunger strike in Zagreb to inform the world public about the brutality of Serbian rule in the Kosovo health service. He also argued with the remarks of the Serbian government, which stated that "Serbia cannot be responsible for all the faults of the former leaderships and the separatists because it assumed authority only two months ago." First, Agani said, this was not an assumption of authority but a brutal act of the police; second, this did not take place two months ago but more than one year ago, when the constitutional changes in Serbia were introduced. However, even if what the Serbian government said was true, it is obvious what chaos has been created in the last two months in Kosovo—in politics, the economy, the media, culture, and education. As far as I know, no law in the world provides for dismissals from work and the one-year closure of private shops because of one day's absence from work. There have been thousands of cases of this in a single week.

In conclusion, Dr. Fehmi commented on certain steps by Macedonian officials regarding the interests and rights of the Albanians in this republic, and said that the only way to preserve peace and authority in Macedonia is to preserve and cultivate Albanian-Macedonian friendship, a view which the Albanians of Macedonia and the LDK as a political party also support. We therefore reject all insinuations and baseless accusations about the alleged "existence of some kind of special link between the LDK and the Party of Democratic Prosperity in Macedonia." We merely insist that the rights, freedoms, and cultural identity of the Albanians in Macedonia should be respected for the sake of this friendship and the stability of Macedonia. [passage omitted]

What Happened in the Village of Sipasnica?

At the news conference, the lawyer Bajram Kelmendi, member of the Pristina Council for the Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms, solved the several-day-old riddle about what happened at the village of Sipasnica near Kamenica. He told journalists that large militia forces with armored vehicles surrounded the village, on the pretext of confiscating a revolver owned by Rexhep Dermaku, for which he had a license. Because Rexhep wished to hand over his weapon to the competent authorities according to the law, and had done so, he began to run away through the lanes of the village. According to fellow-villagers who were present, a hail of militia fire then came from all directions. The result of this hail of automatic rifle fire was as follows: Ramiz Dermaku (30) was wounded in the chest; Tefik Dermaku (60) was wounded in the knee; Nexhmedin Dermaku (32) was wounded in the right arm, and Qazim Dermaku (47) in the right elbow.

Bajram Kelmendi showed the journalists material evidence of this action of the Serbian militia in the form of automatic rifle cartridges, tear gas canisters, and photographs of the wounded. [passage omitted]

Consequences of Serbian Kosovo Policy Reviewed

AU1309151890 Ljubljana NEODVISNI DNEVNIK in Slovene 10 Sep 90

[Robert Mecilosek commentary: "Isolation for Serbia"]

[Text] The two recent moves that the Serbian authorities have made in Kosovo have touched off a real avalanche of international condemnations and will almost certainly be soon followed by other measures. First, the visit by U.S. senators was accompanied by a harsh political intervention against the Albanians who gathered in the streets of Pristina to wait for the U.S. delegation. In the middle of the last week, members of the International Helsinki Federation were expelled from Kosovo.

Both acts are so contrary to any logic, that one has to ask whether they can perhaps be a sign of disagreement within the Serbian leadership regarding the current policy in Kosovo. It is completely clear that it is very well known in Serbia that Senator Robert Dole is considered to be one of the most influential and respected U.S. politicians, as well as that European countries are today most sensitive to the violation of human rights.

All that is completely contrary to all these things that Serbia wants to gain in the coming years: It has applied to be given the organization of Olympic games, Belgrade would like to become an important European business center, and the like. With such a policy, all this will certainly come to nothing and, moreover, Serbia is threatened by isolation at international level which will all have indirect consequences for the entire state, inasmuch as that still exists.

If it turned out that such policy is not a result of a certain hysteria concerning Kosovo or some irrational thinking, this would be confirmation of the opinion that Serbia wants to live according to the recipes that are not acceptable to most people in the world of today. This certainly has a quite definite significance for the debates about the future configuration of the state, for it is clear that there is in fact no common denominator between the (official) stands of the Serbian leadership and those of the most part of the rest of Yugoslavia.

As concerns the above-mentioned irrationality, that also means that future Yugoslav "negotiations" will certainly be heated; all possibilities are open, including the worst ones.

Serbian Executive Council Ratifies Election Law

LD1309132190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1049 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Belgrade, 13 Sep (TANJUG)—The Executive Council of the Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Serbia today ratified the proposed law on electing people's deputies. The law specifies that the period from the day elections are called to the day they are held cannot be shorter than 30 or longer than 90 days. To be nominated as deputy a candidate will need to collect 100 signatures, instead of the 500 required in the initial version of the election law.

The law also requires the media to provide equal publicity opportunities for all candidates and those who nominate them. In addition, new bodies, including a new electoral commission, will be set up to organize the coming election.

Voting Rules Outlined

LD1309171290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1228 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 13 Sep (TANJUG)—The election law guarantees that soldiers' voting preferences will not be disclosed. The right of political parties and other groups to oversee the vote counting procedure is amplified. The law provides opportunity for the formation of supervisory committees consisting of three people jointly elected by everyone proposing candidates in particular election units. The committee will not only oversee the work of the election commissions, but will have the right to attend and oversee the vote counting.

The future People's Assembly of Serbia [Narodna Skupstina Srbije] will have only one chamber. It will be composed of 250 deputies instead of 200, as envisaged by the draft election law.

The council ratified the draft law on electing the president of the republic. The draft version drops the regulation concerning the age-limit for a presidential candidates, which was a part of the first version. The view prevails that there are no reasons for setting an age limit for any elected post, and that such a limit would breach the constitutional principle that everyone has the right to vote for and to be elected to all organs and election bodies.

Solutions were dropped, whereby presidential elections may only be held if at least two candidates are put forward. The view from the public debate prevailed that such solution under the conditions of a multiparty system is superfluous, because all parties, and even other political organizations, may propose their own candidates.

According to the draft law, any citizens who is resident in Serbia can be proposed as a presidential candidate. In this respect, presidential candidates are put on an equal footing with candidates for deputies.

New Movement Asks for Belgrade TV Name Change

LD1409093290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0729 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Belgrade, 14 Sep (TANJUG)—If the Serbian people have their national, democratic state, whose parliament acts as the founder of television stations, then it is logical the Serbian state and the Serbian parliament are founders of Serbian television, asks the New Democracy-Movement for Serbia [Nova Demokratija-Pokret za Srbiju] (former Serbian socialist youth federation) in a demand sent to the Serbian Assembly.

Belgrade TV is already a state-sponsored television, and as such, it is only natural that its status is manifested through its name. The current name, the statement of the New Democracy-Movement for Serbia cites, imples the station broadcast programs only relevant to the Belgrade region.

New Equipment Slated for Knin Radio Station

LD1309165390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1132 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Knin, 13 Sep (TANJUG)—The reception of Serbian Radio Knin will soon improve in areas beyond the Knin municipality. Work started today in Knin on installing a new, 54-meter high ariel which will enable [words indistinct] responded to an appeal by Knin radio station.

Thanks to technical assistance from Belgrade Radio, Knin radio station has recently acquired improved equipment, including a sophisticated panel [words indistinct] is expected to obtain a live relay link.

The future and development plans of Knin local radio station will soon be discussed by the Chamber of Associated Labor of the Knin municipal Assembly. The possibility of Knin's own television program and a local daily will also be considered.

In the meantime, the people of Knin will continue to tune to their local radio station as the only reliable source of information in recent months.

Foca Situation 'Gradually Normalizing'

LD1309172190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1359 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Summary] Foca, 13 Sep (TANJUG)—The political and security situation in Foca is gradually normalizing. The citizens are strictly observing the ban on the gathering of people. No incidents have been recorded today.

Call To Prevent 'Nationalistic Frenzy' in Foca

LD1309213190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2025 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Foca, 13 Sep (TANJUG)—The Democratic Socialist Alliance of the Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina today called on all individuals, parties and state organs to prevent inter-ethnic divisions and what they termed a nationalistic frenzy in Foca which might result in a civil war.

Serbs and Montenegrins working for a local transport firm in Foca, which also has a Muslim community, have been striking for three (?months), demanding the resignation of the firm's director, a Muslim, whom they accuse of fomenting ethnic divisions in the town.

This triggered a demonstration of Serbs and Montenegrins in Foca on Tuesday [11 September]. In ensuing clashes between the demonstrators and the police, four persons were injured and 52 were arrested.

This in turn led to 132 Serbian workers of the transport firm and their families going on hunger strike yesterday evening.

Today, the situation in Foca is stabilizing, with the people respecting a ban on assembly, imposed on Tuesday following the Serbs' clash with the police.

Several hundred Foca-born Serbs and Montenegrins living in [word indistinct] gathered outside the federal parliament building today, demanding the protection of the human rights of the Serbs in Foca. They demanded the resignation of the government of Bosnia-Herzegovina, headed by republican Premier Marko Ceranic, and of republican Interior Secretary Muhamed Besic because of what they said was their unauthorized use of force against the people in Foca.

Bosnian Parties Meet With Nationals in FRG

AU1409082590 Zagreb VJESNIK in Serbo-Croatian 10 Sep 90 p 3

[Nenad Ivankovic report: "Flood of Party Passions"]

[Excerpts] Stuttgart—There were many booes and protests but as many enthusiastic expressions of approval, and finally a peaceful and dignified end!

This is the briefest way to describe Saturday [8 September] evening in Stuttgart's Liederhalle on Berlin Square, where for the second time in a week the Bosnia-Hercegovina parties met with Bosnian migrant workers in the FRG. [passage omitted]

Seven parties set up their own kind of "Bosnian parliament" in Stuttgart: the SDA [Party of Democratic Action] (vice president Salim Sabic), the HDZ [Croatian Democratic Community] (writer Andjelko Vuletic), DSS [expansion unknown] (the Socialists, Ismet Grbo), the RS [Republican Party] (the Republicans, Fuad Muhic), the HDS [Croatian Democratic Party] (Tomislav Zelic), the LC-SDP [League of Communists-Social Democratic Party] (Zlatko Lagundzija), and the DZ [Democratic Community] (Stjepan Blazanovic). The audience's interest centered primarily on questions of whether Yugoslavia will disintegrate and what would happen to Bosnia-Hercegovina in this situation. When will the concept of political emigration be scrapped in Bosnia and for how long will the monopoly of Milosevic's clique last on Sarajevo Television? Why could Serbs abroad vote (in the recent referendum) and "we cannot?" Could the minister of defense in Bosnia be a civilian? Where will Bosnians serve in the army in the future? What will be the official language in the new Bosnia? What kind of flag will it have? How will education be organized? Is there any need for cultural autonomies?

What will happen to the foreign currency reserves if Yugoslavia falls apart? What are the chances of Ante Markovic, who has "thrown himself" into Bosnia? When will UDBA [State Security Administration] be driven out of Bosnia-Hercegovina? Will the previous rulers be held responsible for their crimes?

The SDA With 650,000 Members

The participants in the discussion answered some of these questions in a quite specific way. With regard to Markovic's party, Salim Sabic said that this was "a stab in the back of young Bosnian democracy and particularly Muslims," while in connection with cultural autonomy, he stressed that Muslims were the only people in Europe who do not have their own national institutions and said that "we will therefore fight against the language of TANJUG" and for the cultural autonomy of all peoples in Bosnia-Hercegovina. In reply to a question on what the stand of the SDA would have been, had the Yugoslav People's Army intervened in the Knin events, Sabic said: "We would have condemned this and given support to the Croatian Government"!

Otherwise, the vice president of the strongest Bosnian party said that the SDA now has about 650,000 members and that this is a party mainly made up of Muslims at the moment, but it wanted in future to be a European bourgeois party and hoped that members of the other peoples would join it. [passage omitted]

Fuad Muhic (RS) basically repeated his well-known stands that "there can be no Bosnia without Croatia nor Croatia without Bosnia," and accused Milosevic of the ideological genocide of the Muslims.

Representatives of the HDS and DZ basically reduced their programs to electoral support for the HDZ. Vuletic (HDZ) himself said in connection with the future structure of Yugoslavia that Yugoslavia is already a confederation, but if a union were to be formed in the east of the country (the announced federation between Serbia and Montenegro), there would also be a union in the west (a confederation of Bosnia-Hercegovina, Croatia, and Slovenia). [passage omitted]

In this context, one should also mention the stand voiced by Blazanovic (DZ) that his party supports a confederation of Bosnia- Hercegovina with Croatia and Slovenia, but only temporarily until a "united Croatia is created, in which Bosnia would be one of the provinces as Dalmatia is today!"

For a Sovereign Bosnia-Hercegovina

Sabic came out in favor of a sovereign Bosnia-Hercegovina in which all three of its peoples would be equal with the other peoples of Yugoslavia (thereby receiving some boos), adding that if a federal unit were to secede from Yugoslavia, Bosnia-Hercegovina would too, "because it does not want to be in a diminished federation." [passage omitted]

The meeting observed a minute's silence in sympathy for the families of the miners who were killed in the Kreka mine disaster and about 15,700 Deutsche marks was contributed in aid. At the end of this roundtable discussion, the participants were addressed by Hafiz Gagica from the Democratic Alliance of Kosovo, who said only one sentence:

"I ask you for help in the democratic resolution of the problems of the Albanian people in Kosovo."

Bosnia Communists Oppose Socialist Party Concept

LD1109214790 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1613 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Text] Sarajevo, 11 Sep (TANJUG)—The League of Communists of the Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina-Party of Social Changes (TCBH-PSC) [as received] presidency opposed setting up a Yugoslav socialist party by transforming certain parties into a new organization without consulting the membership and the leftist parties, it was stressed at a press conference in Sarajevo Tuesday [11 September].

Meho Basic, member of the LCBH presidency, told reporters that the LCBH leadership favors the forming of leftist orientated forces. He also stressed that, if this way of transformation was insisted on, the LCBH representatives would withdraw from the committee for the transformation of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY), formed at the 14th, last LCY congress.

Basic also said an organization formed in this way would have neither legitimacy nor legality for Bosnia-Hercegovina communists.

Slovene Spokesman on 'Confederal Contract'

LD1309172790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1354 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Ljuljana, 13 Sep (TANJUG)—Slovene Government spokesman Branko Podobnik, at today's press conference, explicitly stressed that the Slovene Government "formulated possible elements of a confederal contract" today which will be sent to deputies of republican assemblies. This is not a draft confederal contract, rumors of which are circulating in public and the public information media, but just "a theoretical model" for such a document.

Slovene, Croat Social Democratic Parties Confer

LD1409101190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0757 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 14 Sep (TANJUG)—The Slovene Social-Democratic Party [Socijaldemokratska Stranka Slovenije—SDSS] will propose admitting the Croat Social Democratic Party [Socijaldemokratska stranka Hrvatske—SDSH] into "the confederation of the social democratic parties of Central and Eastern Europe," it was announced after a meeting between SDSS and SDSH delegations in Ljubljana. The delegations were headed by Joze Pucnik and Antun Vujic.

Next January Ljubljana will host a meeting of this regional social-democratic confederation. It is expected that the SDSH will be admitted to the confederation at that meeting.

The SDSS and SDSH meeting adopted the SDSH proposal for Zagreb to organize consultations among social-democratic parties "from the Baltics to the Adriatic and the Black Sea." These will focus on the national issue and problems of the state organization.

The Slovene and Croat sociodemocrats intend to set in motion initiatives for supraparty and multiparty meetings between delegations from two republics aimed at discussing how to develop confederal relations. These talks will be modeled on talks already being held between top republican representatives following the multiparty elections in these two republics.

Former HDZ Member Blames Expulsion on Tudjman

AU1409083290 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 10 Sep 90 p 3

[Enver Demirovic report: "With the Methods of Racists"]

[Excerpt] Sarajevo—Dr. Tudjman's waving of my birth certificate at a session of the Assembly of the Croatian Democratic Community [HDZ] in Zagreb to show that I am not a full-blooded Croatian and his insistence that I must be removed from this party are at variance not only with the aims of the HDZ and its programmatic principles, but also with all human and civilized behavior, Dr. Davor Perinovic told BORBA in a special interview.

The decision by the HDZ in Zagreb to replace me. as president of the Main Committee of the HDZ of Bosnia-Hercegovina and to expel me from the party, did not surprise me. A similar move had already been attempted in Sarajevo during the founding assembly of the HDZ of Bosnia-Hercegovina, but we frustrated this attempt by insisting that our organization's membership decide on this. It is known how this was decided, Dr. Davor Perinovic, president of the HDZ of Bosnia- Hercegovina, said at the beginning of the interview he gave after he was replaced and expelled from the HDZ. [passage omitted]

Macedonian Government Counters Tupurkovski Attack

AU1309124390 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 7 Sep 90 p 3

["D.N."-signed report: "Tupurkovski Is Overthrowing the Government"]

[Text] Skopje—On the occasion of the statement Vasil Tupurkovski, member of the SFRY Presidency, has given to Skopje Radio and Television, in which he has said among other things that the Macedonian Government had behaved in a bureaucratic way on the occasion of the unrest in central Macedonia because of the distribution of water from the Studencica regional water supply, that the unrest escalated as a result, and that Macedonia is not a rule-of-law state, the Republican Executive Council, in a statement issued after its session yesterday, said it was unacceptable that responsible state and party officials use the media and democratic means in order to belittle and denigrate the republican government and other state organs. It is said in the statement that by making that statement, Tupurkovski planned to prevent decisions from being implemented and to strip the republican Executive Council of its power as a republican assembly body. This applies in particular to that part of his statement where he says that, objectively speaking, the republican Executive Council cannot work because the Socialist Republic of Macedonia is not a rule-of-law state. The republican Executive Council is of the opinion that such statements are extremely unacceptable and harmful to the democratic development of the Socialist Republic of Macedonia. After all, Tupurkovski's legitimacy as member of the SFRY Presidency originates from the legality and legitimacy of the Macedonian state.

The Executive Council concluded that such statements by Vasil Tupurkovski make impossible and discredit the constitutional position of the republican Executive Council to a great extent, particularly if one considers that this is not the first time that he has made such a statement; he makes such statements one after another, without even following the activity of the republican Executive Council.

Insinuations of this kind are harmful to the democratic political processes in the republic and represent nothing but a clearly expressed personal tendency of the SFRY Presidency member to provoke distrust into the republican Executive Council and thereby acquire for himself the role of an arbiter above all institutions, it is said in the republican Executive Council statement.

Macedonia Seeks Repayment From Federal Government

LD1409055590 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0025 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Skopje, 13 Sep (TANJUG)—The government of Yugoslavia's southernmost republic of Macedonia will not support any initiative of the Yugoslav Government until the federation repays its outstanding financial obligations to the republic, said Macedonian Prime Minister Gligorije Gogovski at tonight's talks with Macedonian trade union representative.

Macedonia claims due around 200 million dollars from the federal government of President Ante Markovic.

According to Gogovski, the delay in repaying outstanding claims can jeopardize Macedonia's policy of economic development, and thus it asked the federal government to call to account the Yugoslav finance minister.

Trade Unions, Government Disagree on Law on Pay

AU1309113690 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 7 Sep 90 p 1

[M. Petric report: "Complete or Partial Scrapping of the Law on Pay"]

[Text] In the latest talks between the representatives of the Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Yugoslavia and the Federal Executive Council [FEC], held the evening before last behind closed doors, most discussion concerned the controversial Law on Pay. The statement that was issued concerning these talks says that the representatives of the trade union organization put forward numerous demands from enterprises, organs, and trade union organizations for the Law on Pay to be scrapped, for comprehensive information on the implementation of this law to be provided, and for it to be established whether the law is applied throughout the country.

According to yesterday's explanation by Moma Colakovic, president of the Council of the Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Yugoslavia, the trade unions are offering three possible solutions at the moment. First, the SFRY Assembly should adopt quickly adopt a law on collective agreements which would do away with the need to legally regulate distribution. According to the second variation, the trade union proposes that the Law on the Payment of Personal Incomes be scrapped in its entirety, but could possibly apply only to enterprises which have a monopoly position in the market. According to the third variant, only Article 4 of the aforementioned law would be scrapped and the payment of a part of income in stocks would be voluntary. The FEC has promised that it will discuss these proposals by 14 September.

Stands were in agreement concerning the question that guaranteed personal incomes be exempt from restrictions and cannot be paid in stocks, not even in part. Contributions and taxes should not be paid on stocks, or more precisely the part of the income that is paid in this way, because, as Colakovic commented yesterday, this would otherwise mean that "workers would receive paper and the state cash."

Numerous Parties Register at Federal Level

LD1309190990 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1516 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Summary] Belgrade, 13 Sep (TANJUG)—Federal Secretary for Justice Vlado Kambovski announced at a news conference today that 10 [as received] parties have been registered at the federal level. He also noted that the Federal Secretariat for Justice is empowered to follow the work of these parties and revoke their registration if their activity is contrary to the SFRY Constitution. He also noted that republican parties active in more than one republic must register in all republics where they intend to be or are active. These parties must also register with the Federal Secretariat for Federal Justice.

The following parties have so far been registered at the federal level: the Belgrade-based Yugoslav Workers' party (Radnicka Partije Jugoslavije iz Beograda); the Belgrade-based Yugoslav Socialist Democratic Party (Jugoslovenska Socijalisticka Demokratska Partija iz Beograda); the Belgrade-based New Communist Movement of Yugoslavia (Novi Komunisticki Pokret Jugoslavije iz Beograda); the Koper-based Muslim Democratic Party (Muslimanska Demokratska Stranka iz Kopera); the Belgrade-based Movement for the Protection of Human Rights in Yugoslavia (Pokret za Zastitu Ljudskih Prava u Jugoslaviji iz Beograda); the Belgrade-based Yugoslav Communist Party (Komunisticks Partija Hugoslavije iz Beograda); the Prinstina-based Democratic Alliance of Kosovo (Demokratski Savez Kosova iz Pristine); the Zagreb-based Party of Yugoslavs (Stranka Jugoslovena iz Zagreba); the Belgrade-based Movement for the Unification of Serbia and Montenegro (Pokret za Ujedinjenje Srbije i Crne Gore iz Beograda).

The following parties submitted application forms for their registration; the Belgrade-based Serbian Renaissance Movement (Srpski Pokret Obnove iz Beograda); the Belgrade-based People's Peasant Party (Narodna Seljacka Stranka iz Beograda); the Serbian St. Sava Party (Srpska Svetosavska Partija).

Daily Newspapers Post Six-Month Circulation Drop

LD1309165190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0227 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Belgrade, 13 Sep (TANJUG)—Despite the turbulent political scene, the circulation of Yugoslav daily papers suffered a slight downturn in the first six months of this year compared to the same period last year. Although data from the Yugoslav newspapers publising community is incomplete—no records for the circulation of dailies in Kosovo are available—it clearly shows that in the first half of 1990, the daily circulation of Yugoslav dailies averaged 1,821,873. This represents only a one-percent decrease compared to the same period last year.

VECERNJI NOVOSTI, according to this source, despite a four-percent downturn, continued in the first half of the year to be the daily with the highest circulation in the country, with an average circulation of 252,331 published issues (205,177 issues sold). It is followed by VECERNJI LIST of Zagreb, with a circulation of 247,027 published and 205,222 issues sold. POLITIKA of Belgrade is still holding third place, with an average circulation of 225,661 published and 189,769 sold issues. POLITIKA EKSPRES is closing the gap with 225,578 published and 184,171 sold issues.

It is interesting to note that the last month of the first half of the year brought with it a significant change in the circulation of the daily papers. In this month only, the overall circulation of all daily papers rose by six percent compared the same month last year. VECERNJI LIST of Zagreb took the lead with 271,976 published and 229,633 issues sold.

Government Spokesman on UN Resolution Support

LD1309180390 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1607 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Belgrade, 13 Sep (TANJUG)—Yugoslavia has not received from Iraq an offer for expanding cooperation, and any similar offer would be pointless as Yugoslavia unreservedly supports the five U.N. Security Council resolutions against Iraq, including the one on imposing economic sanctions, Yugoslav Government spokesman Ivo Vajgl told a regular press conference on Thursday [13 September].

Commenting on Tuesday's meeting of the foreign ministers of Yugoslavia, India and Algeria in Belgrade, Vajgl said that the meeting of the three non-aligned countries had been productive, adding that non-aligned and other international consultations on the situation in the Gulf were needed.